

*Yours truly
John Daggett.*

A SKETCH
OF THE
HISTORY OF ATTLEBOROUGH

FROM ITS SETTLEMENT TO THE DIVISION.

BY
JOHN DAGGETT.

Edited and Completed by His Daughter.

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PREFACE.

IN placing this historical work of my father's, in its more extended form, before his townspeople, some words of explanation are requisite. The delay in its appearance has been unavoidable because the task of bringing it to completion assumed much greater proportions than was anticipated. I had but little knowledge during his lifetime of the progress he had made toward perfecting his plan, and it was not until nearly a year had elapsed after his death that I was able to commence such an examination of his papers as was necessary to enable me to decide whether it would be possible to undertake myself the labor of completion and publication.

At first I thought a few months' time would suffice, as the preparations seemed to be quite complete; but this proved true of portions only which pertained to the ancient history of the town. Regarding the more modern times numerous scattered notes and suggestions were found, but frequently nothing whatever to guide me in trying to ascertain the author's ideas in certain lines, or to work out the same when a theme was given. I found no single page of fully prepared manuscript, but a copy of the former "Sketch," bound with as many blank as printed leaves, and upon them were corrections, additions, fresh items, etc. Beyond that scraps of paper containing facts, dates, references, etc., with now and again a few pages relating to some person or subject, requiring sometimes little or no change, at others partial or almost entire rewriting—all of which had to be arranged and rearranged again and again, as new links were added to the ever-lengthening chain, or new threads were brought to the almost endless weaving of the historical web.

The book is simply what it purports to be—a "sketch," not a complete history; such in detail would comprise several volumes. As events have transpired, it is no doubt well that it was not published before the division, as that forms a proper ending to the history of the original town. I hope it may also prove to be well that the longer delay brings its publication into this our bi-centennial year. Like the earlier sketch this is designed first of all for Attleborough people, wherever they may be, and in what it has fallen to my lot to finish I have endeavored to carry out this evident design of the author, by preserving many things of peculiar and personal interest to them.

I have been most generously assisted in my labors by those to whom I have applied for information or advice. I am much indebted to Mr. D. Hamilton Hurd, of Boston, the compiler, and Messrs. J. W. Lewis & Co., of Philadelphia, the publishers, of the "History of Bristol County," for their courteous permission to copy from that publication whatever might be of use to me; a privilege of which I have availed myself, especially outside the chapter therein which was prepared by my father; and I am indebted to Messrs. George H. Walker & Co., of Boston, Publishers, Engravers, Lithographers, etc., the publishers of the "Atlas of Attleborough Town," for a similar courtesy with regard to the historical sketches in that work. I am also indebted to officers of Brown University, Amherst College, and Yale University for searching records and furnishing full and correct lists of Attleborough graduates from their respective institutions; and to the officials in the Secretary's Library at the State House for their civilities in facilitating my researches there. I am under special obligations to Mr. Thomas A. Barden for many essential facts which he took considerable trouble to furnish; to the Rev. John Whitehill for the valuable information he supplied; to Mr. Edward R. Price for important aid; to Mr. Frank I. Babcock for clear statements regarding various matters, and much needed advice; and to Major Everett S. Horton for placing in my hands carefully compiled records relating to our soldiers of the Civil War, which I could not otherwise have obtained, and for useful information upon other subjects.

I wish to express thanks to those town officers who placed records—both ancient and modern—at my disposal, and aided me materially in my investigations; to the large number of business men who responded to my lists of questions; to the old soldiers who recalled interesting war experiences; to Mr. Everett B. Bliss for his gift of several pictures; to Mr. Samuel M. Holman for his interest and care in preparing the photographs from which nearly all of the illustrations were made; and to all the others, both ladies and gentlemen,—who number too many to be mentioned separately, and who would not desire such particular mention,—to whom I have applied for help, and who have bestowed it graciously to the extent of their ability, and in most abundant measure. From the “Chronicle,” the “Advocate,” and the “Sun” I have culled much of interest and importance, and it gives me pleasure to acknowledge my indebtedness to their columns in this manner.

Among the many agreeable experiences to be remembered, I recall with special pleasure the interest shown in my work by a little girl, who carefully gathered up numerous loosened ends of fact, bound them neatly together, and sent them to me far over the seas to an ancient liberty-loving city of mid-Europe; and in that same city, by one of those happy accidents never to be forgotten, and always to be gratefully appreciated, some very essential matter relating to the first white settler within our original borders—without which a chapter would have been sadly incomplete—came to me by the hands of a lover of all that pertains to early New England history, a courteous and cultivated Boston gentleman. My gratitude to all these my creditors is offered in the name of my father as well as my own, for in his name I asked for aid, and for his sake I am sure my requests, of whatever nature, were fully and freely answered.

The book had assumed almost double the size expected before the manuscript was placed in the printer's hands. If blame attaches to that fact, I willingly bear my portion thereof; but the number of pages is largely due to the fact that the good people of whom I have asked information have shown their love for their town by filling my hands to overflowing with those incidents and occurrences which form the contents of several of the following chapters, and which were of too much interest to be lightly thrown aside.

No one can regret more deeply than myself that the author did not live to fully accomplish his purposed work, for he of all men was best fitted to write worthily a history of our town. No one can realize more fully than myself the many deficiencies of my own share of the work; but I offer the result of my attempts to Attleborough people without hesitation, because I feel certain that in kindly remembrance of the author my many faults will meet with lenient criticism, and that my many failures will be generously overlooked by all those who understand my motives in essaying the completion of the book. Numerous errors will no doubt be found upon its pages—some probably avoidable, others perhaps not so; for all such I bespeak forbearance.

If this “Sketch”—so called by its author—finds favor and proves acceptable and useful to Attleborough people, at home or abroad, wherever it is destined to find its way, his long-cherished wish will be realized and my own highest desire fully satisfied. In writing these words of explanation and preface it affords me peculiar pleasure to date them not only from the town where the author lived and died, but from the very house where for a long generation he dwelt, and from the very corner of the room where during those years he constantly read and wrote, and where no doubt he often thought of those early days whose annals he so zealously investigated, and upon whose occurrences his fancy ever loved to dwell.

THE EDITOR.

ATTLEBOROUGH, July, 1894.

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE AUTHOR.

HON. JOHN DAGGETT, the author of this work, was born in Attleborough, February 10, 1805, one of the seventh generation of his family in this country. The first of the name to emigrate from his native land was one John Doggett, who came over in Winthrop's fleet in 1630. His name is found on the list of applicants for admission as freeman, October 19, 1630, and he was among the first admitted. — No. 8, — May 18, 1631. He was a proprietor, and among the first settlers of Watertown, this State. That town was settled in 1630 and was for many years larger than Boston. Mr. Doggett's homestead there was adjoining Fresh Pond, where a hotel of that name now stands, and contained about fifteen acres. He had six lots and a grant of eighty acres. He seems to have been actively engaged with Governor Mayhew — then a resident of Watertown — in getting up a company to occupy Martha's Vineyard, "the island of which Governor Mayhew had purchased the grant," and about 1644 he went there in the company of the new governor, and, it is said, "was thus intimately associated with the Mayhews in the government of the colony, as indeed the Daggetts continued to be not only for some succeeding generations but down to the present day." Thomas Mayhew, "a merchant," was born in Southampton, England, in 1591. He came to this country and settled first in Medford, then removed to Watertown, and from there to Martha's Vineyard as its proprietor and governor. He died in 1681, six days before he was ninety. He had been a representative in this State, and was a preacher to the Indians for some thirty-three years. His first wife died in England; the second one was Grace, widow of Thomas Payne, of London. Two of his descendants were missionaries to the Indians and many of them have been prominent men. Of one of these, Thomas, a son, an interesting story is related. He graduated at Harvard College and prepared himself to be a missionary, going as such to the Vineyard in 1642, two years before his father took up a residence there. He was very successful as a teacher and preacher among those native people, and they became exceedingly attached to him. He finally decided to go to England to solicit funds with which to build a church and provide other things needed by his pupils, and in 1657 completed his arrangements for the voyage. The Indians regarded the ocean as a terrible monster, because it often swallowed up their friends and canoes when they ventured but a short distance from the land, and they were overwhelmed with fears for their beloved teacher when they learned that he was going so far away —

John, son of Thomas and Hannah, was probably born in Edgartown in 1662. He married on the Island, and his wife's first name was Sarah. Of her other name nothing positive is known, one account declaring her to be the daughter of Isaac Norton, and another that there is no certainty as to who she was. This couple settled in Chilmark, and from there came to this town, their entire family of nine children also settling here. Prudence is mentioned as the residence of John Daggett, and that was a portion of Tisbury, the records speaking of it as "the mannour of Tisbury, commonly called Chilmark." This was the seat of the Mayhews, and is now a part of the town of Tisbury. He owned property there which it is said he sold in 1711 for £300, a considerable sum in those days and the equivalent of a much greater one at the present time. During that same year he bought the Woodcock Garrison House and several hundred acres of land in this town. Upon a record bearing date June 10, 1711, Mayhew Daggett, his oldest son, is named as "of Attleboro'." It would seem, therefore, that he preceded his father in removing to this town, the latter, with his family, coming "between October 17, 1711, and December 24, 1712." He at once became an inn-keeper in the old Garrison house, "and soon became interested in town and church affairs. His lands being located on the road from Boston to Rhode Island, and his tavern a convenient stopping-place en route, he soon became well known, not only to the people of Attleborough, but to all travelers between Boston and Rhode Island." He became a deacon, and was a representative in 1720 to the General Court. In 1722 he sold his inn property and two years later, on September 7, 1724, he died. He was buried in the old "Hatch burying ground."

Ebenezer, son of Deacon John, was born on the Vineyard in 1690. November 9, 1721, he married, in this town, Mary, daughter of Penticost Blackinton, and about that time he bought the farm on the East Bay Road, leading from Bristol and Providence to the Bay, Boston — now known as the "old Daggett place." He is spoken of as "husbandman," "tanner," and "inn-holder." About the time of his marriage he built the house there which, with some changes, is still standing. The old-fashioned summer beams extend through the two large main rooms, and the immense chimney still occupies its original space in the centre of the building. It must be one of the oldest dwelling-houses in town. The old inn sign — a curious relic of olden times — is still in existence. It is of considerable weight and size and was elaborately painted. The representations of the great royal crown of England, in once glowing but now fast-fading colors, are still discernible, and the date of 1725 is still traceable on one side. It ceased a century and a half ago to swing on its rusty hinges before the hostelry door, where it creakingly announced comfort and cheer to mailcoach traveler, or weary wayfarer, its life of bustling activity changed to one of quiet reminiscence in the big lonely garret of the old house. Whose eyes have scanned its

brilliant painting in colonial days no one is left to tell us, and of the guests it invited to refreshment or repose the voice of time is silent. What chances has Atholborough seen since it first swung noisily to the breeze,—from five hundred people to four times that number of thousands, from almost a wilderness, with few and homely roads and here and there a rude and roughly built dwelling with its patch of clearing, to busy villages, swelling fertile farms, beautiful houses, unnumbered cheerful roads, and lightening railways. Would that its long silence might be broken! Would that it could voice for us the incidents of those long-dead intervening years!

Phonoxer Daggett died in 1740. His son was John, the famous Revolutionary officer, and Phonoxer, his son, was the father of the subject of this sketch.

The full descent is as follows: John, the English emigrant; Thomas, second son and child; John, third son and child—removed from the Vineyard to Atholborough; Phonoxer, second son and child; John, first son and second child; Phonoxer, fourth son and sixth child. The last named married Sally Maxcy, of North Atholborough, September 3, 1757. She was born in November, 1778, the daughter of Benjamin Maxcy by his second wife, Amy Ide, of this town.

A story of considerable romantic interest is attached to the first of that name who came to this country. He is said to have been one Alexander Maxcy, son of a gentleman of rank and wealth in England. He was brought up on his father's estate in the country, and during his boyhood his constant playmate was the pretty daughter of the lodge-keeper. No danger of serious consequences was anticipated, and the children were allowed the utmost freedom of companionship. The frequent result in such cases, however, followed here: the boy and girl fell in love with each other, both very naturally forgetting the differences in their social positions, and as the former approached manhood he announced his intention of marrying his little friend. This idea, of course, met with instant and entire disapproval on the part of his parents, and he was at once despatched to school and college, with the expectation that new scenes and occupations would speedily dispel the unfortunate illusion. In due time the young man returned to his home, and, to the dismay of his family, more than ever determined to carry out his purpose and wed the woman of his choice, regardless of rank or position. The usual quarrel ensued; the father would not yield and give his consent to the union, the son would not yield and promise to give it up, nor would he remain at home if he must forfeit his wishes for bride, so he ran away, and presently found passage to America. How he employed himself here is not stated, but some time after his arrival an advertisement happened to meet his eyes, which stated that if he would go to a certain place at Boston, something to his great advantage would there be communicated to him. His curiosity was sufficiently aroused to prompt him to make his appearance at the specified

place, and he found that a vessel had been sent out for him. It was thoroughly and completely equipped in every way, and contained many costly personal gifts in the line of handsome apparel, etc., and he was entreated to take the entire command of everything and return to his home. This young Maxcy promptly declined to do, finding the freedom and independence of this new country more congenial to his self-reliant nature than the conventional thralldom of the old.

He finally came to this region — possibly to Wrentham, since this tradition has been preserved among descendants who lived in that town — and found occupation of some kind. The first love appears at length to have been forgotten, or at least supplanted, for in due time he fell in love again, this time with the daughter of some worthy citizen in his vicinity. Others also aspired to her hand, for she was comely, and her father “well to do.” One of these suitors, older and already “forehanded” far beyond our hero, was approved by the father. The story runs that on a certain evening the elder swain was expected to make a visit upon the maiden for the purpose of declaring his sentiments. Maxcy, informed of this, — perhaps by the fair maiden herself, for we may be assured he had long before ascertained the state of her mind and heart upon the important question, — took occasion to present himself for a visit at the same time. He quietly but determinedly outstayed the elder man, and furthermore presented his own case to the father in such bold and manly fashion that he won it in spite of former obstacles and became the accepted lover, the father’s consent thereto making the young people happy then and there. This account has been handed down in one branch of the family at least, but unfortunately no names but that of the hero have been preserved. Much or little of it may be true, but the whole of the determined independent spirit which it ascribes to the founder of the family may be accepted unquestionably, for the same spirit has been inherited by many of the descendants who have followed him here, and it is by no means wholly dissipated up to the present time.

Ebenezer Daggett resided always upon the place purchased by his grandfather, and there in the old house his twelve children were born. Of the eight who lived to reach maturity, John was oldest son and second child. Like most of our town boys of his time he was brought up in the occupation of his father. He, no doubt, performed his allotted share of the lighter farm work thoroughly and conscientiously, — as his nature would prompt him to do, — but taking no pleasure in the actual labor. He always, however, evinced a decided fondness for farming theoretically, and for many years he made it an avocation. He enjoyed practical work in that line occasionally, but his lameness prevented anything more than a very slight indulgence in personal application to it. As a child he was quiet and reserved, and though healthy and strong, never had any special fondness for rough sports and games or for indulging in boyish pranks and frolics. He early developed a

quickness in learning, and an aptitude for study, and he always had an unusually vigorous and retentive memory.

This liking was manifested in a remarkable manner at a very early age, as is shown by the following incident. When he was three or four years old, instead of amusing himself with playthings, he frequently wanted to sit down and sew. Upon one occasion, when he sat in his little arm-chair busily engaged in taking stitches, he had an experience like that which often befalls even adults in the art—his work “plugged him,” and presently he called to his mother to come to his assistance. His little soul was so vexed with him that he was moved to express his opinion of the sewing with a very short but very forcible word. The mother was surprised and shocked to hear an oath from those baby lips, and as she set matters right read him a lesson upon the wickedness of the word and his own exceeding naughtiness in using it, bidding him never to say it again. All went smoothly for a while, but, alas! the thread, as thread will, knotted and tangled and broke again, and again the childish wrath waxed hot. The moral lesson was speedily forgotten in the all-absorbing anger; for, as he called a second time for assistance, he emphatically doubled his former forcible expression. A scream of horror burst from the lips of the dismayed mother, and a long and very serious conversation followed this second indulgence in impious phrases, conducted with severe solemnity on the part of the elder, and with, no doubt, a sadder and deeper gravity on the part of the younger. A tract upon the use of profane language was purchased, and read so often to the innocent little sinner that he soon learned it by heart. The real delinquent in the case was one of the town’s poor, a boarder at the house of Mr. Daggett, then one of the selectmen, and his was the language which had been caught and made use of by the child. That he, young as he was, understood the lessons taught him by his mother, and the tract, is shown by the fact that frequently, when the day’s work was done, and “Old Sweet” sat upon the kitchen settle, smoking his evening pipe, he would clamber up, tract in hand,—though he could not read a word and generally held it upside down,—and standing by the old man’s side he would solemnly say off its contents—let us hope to the aged reprobate’s repentance and improvement.

This story was often told by the mother, in her later years, at family gatherings. Her manner was inflexible, and convulsive laughter on the part of every listener accompanied each recital, no matter how oft repeated, and no one joined in it more heartily than the hero of the tale himself. She almost always ended her vivid description in words like these: “And that is the only time I ever heard John swear.” It probably was the only time in his life, for his language was always characterized by simplicity and refinement. He never indulged in extravagant epithets, and he never made use of slang phrases, no matter how apt or expressive. Another instance of the power of the maternal memory was shown at a “spelling-match” held

in the little old red schoolhouse, still standing, — though somewhat enlarged and differently clothed, — in New Boston. Upon that occasion, when he was perhaps eight or ten years old, he spelled seven hundred words without missing one, and, needless to say, took and held first place. In after years his memory in this direction never failed him. His children always found him the equal of the dictionary in telling them how to spell words, and often much clearer in explaining or simplifying definitions to suit their childish capacities.

The New Boston district school was his "hall of learning" during his early boyhood. At one time, he himself says, he attended the classical school at South Attleborough, kept by a Mr. Wheaton, but at what date or for how long a time is not known. Very naturally in the then state of society in the sparsely settled districts, the decision in favor of giving to a boy a "classical" or college education was frequently the result of what we call "accident" or "chance," and a sad misfortune was the chance in Mr. Daggett's case. It never ceased to be a trial to him, though, as it totally changed his entire expected course of existence, it resulted in giving him a higher, and very probably a happier, life in many respects, one which was certainly more congenial to his nature than almost any other could have been, and which was therefore perhaps more useful to his fellow men.

When a lad of fourteen he was seized with a serious illness, which was long continued and attended with most unfavorable results. The disease finally settled in one of his lower limbs, and physicians pronounced amputation the only means for saving his life. At first his mother, proud of the manly beauty of her promising boy, her oldest son, for the moment refused her consent to the proposed operation, feeling almost that death was preferable to the process of maiming his body, and, it would seem, his entire life. Such a feeling can be well understood in view of the dreadful thing amputation then was : but of course she finally yielded her consent. The time required for such an operation was perhaps not much longer then than now ; but to-day powerful anesthetics place the patient beyond the realization of suffering, and under their influence the shock to the system is reduced to a minimum amount. Then ether and chloroform were unknown, and in this case not even a drop of liquor was given to dull the sensibilities : but, with his strength greatly reduced by months of severe suffering, the boy was strapped to his bed, and with only a handkerchief held before his eyes he endured the keen horrors of the surgeon's knife. The remembrance of that half-hour of agony was so terrible to him that he rarely if ever referred to it, and he never told the feelings he experienced during the operation : nor did the older sister, who was in and out of the room ministering to him as best as she could, ever mention any details but once or twice, and then only in response to earnest questionings.

After the double strain upon the system of protracted illness and the loss

of a little progress toward recovery was slow and tedious; but at length health was completely restored. Then very naturally the question as to the best way of providing for the boy's entire future arose, and the only answer possible was to give him a liberal education, and so prepare him to earn with his sword the livelihood his body would in great measure be unfitted to procure. Such a decision coincided with his desires, and it was a great pleasure both to anticipate and to realize the gratification of his literary tastes.

College life then differed in very many respects from that life now. Stage-coaches were the only public modes of conveyance, a carpet-bag contained the young man's personal outfit, and college rooms were plain and bare, by no means the luxurious and often artistic apartments of the present day. It was the almost universal custom for students to eat in "Commons." They were largely farmers' sons, and ready money would not be easily obtained for the payment of all necessary bills, so the home woodbox supplied the log for the study fire, and many a generous store of good things from the home farm and kitchen accompanied the loads of wood, brought to the college very probably by the father himself, who took the opportunities the carrying of such supplies afforded to see personally how his boy was "getting on in the ways of learning." Upon the mother in those times devolved the preparation of the entire wardrobe, for even "suits" were then homemade, and in the case of which we write all that proud and loving heart could suggest and capable and willing hands perform was done to make the physical loss and inconvenience less deeply felt.

Mr. Daggett fitted for college at Day's Academy in Wrentham, and later in the study of Rev. Alvan Cobb, of Taunton. In September, 1822, at the age of seventeen, he entered Brown University, graduating with high honors—third or fourth in his class—in 1826. The life of a real student thoroughly suited him, and his college years were very happy ones. Those experiences were among the most cherished of his after life, and were always recalled with great satisfaction, especially on commencement anniversaries, when, within the loved and honored walls or under the same old trees, he met surviving classmates and renewed the friendships formed there in the years gone by. Tales of fun and joke were told, professors' whims or peculiarities recalled and imitated, or then lessons of wisdom and good counsel repeated, and, sober, gray-haired men, he and his comrades lived over together those pleasant, youthful days. There was never a son of Brown who possessed a deeper or more lasting love for his Alma Mater than Mr. Daggett. His fidelity never wavered and he grew more zealous in his interest with his growing years. He was proud of the record of her great men, and of his own connection with the institution. He allowed nothing to keep him from attending each commencement as it occurred, and was present literally at every such celebration from the time he entered college until and including

the year of his death — sixty-four in number — a fact which can be recorded of no other graduate.

Having chosen the law as his profession, he at once upon graduating commenced its study in the office of Hon. Joseph L. Tillinghast, of Providence, a distinguished member of the Rhode Island bar and a member of Congress. Here he remained about a year. He continued these studies in the office of Hon. J. J. Fiske, of Wrentham, for the same length of time, and the third year of his course in this department he attended the lectures of Hon. Theron Metcalf, of Dedham. He was admitted to the bar in that town in December, 1829, and at once commenced the practice of his profession, opening an office in East Attleborough in January, 1830. He continued to practise law in his native town throughout his entire life, with the exception of the two years, 1833 and 1834, when he held the position of editor of the *Dedham Patriot*, and resided in that town.

In 1836, at the age of thirty-one, he was elected to the State Legislature for the first time, and his townsmen paid him the compliment of reëlecting him for the two succeeding terms. He was a member of the judiciary committee in 1837, and chairman of the committee on railways in 1839. He opposed with all his powers the plan of running the Boston & Providence Railroad through the centre of East Attleborough, not only because the proposed route necessitated the removal of many bodies from that portion of the graveyard upon which the track trespassed, but because he considered, and so argued, that the heart of a growing village was an inappropriate situation for railroad tracks and a depot with its necessary surroundings. He foresaw, as did many others, that as the village increased many inconveniences would arise, and even serious accidents would be almost certain to ensue. He urged the propriety of taking a projected line over the meadows in the rear of the Holman homestead, bringing many excellent arguments to bear upon the question; but all efforts were in vain, the idea being at that time prevalent that railroads must as far as possible be built in straight lines. As was predicted, great trouble has followed and indeed continues to follow upon the laying of the tracks through the village-centre, and it was long ago acknowledged by the railroad company that Mr. Daggett was right, and that his desired line would have been better for all parties concerned.

The following testimonials were presented to him at about the time of which we are now writing, and would seem to have been called forth in connection with his first candidacy for public office outside his native town.

DEDHAM, May 27, 1836.

This certifies that John Daggett, Esq., of Attleborough, pursued the study of law in my office during the year next preceding his admission to the bar — that he has since practised law in the County of Bristol, with honor and probity, and is, in my estimation, entirely worthy of the confidence of the public and of any individuals who may entrust to him the management of business which he will undertake to superintend. I might truly say much more — and my disposition would lead to a fuller statement of Mr. Daggett's character and habits. But I am

restained by a heart that where he is known, he does become known, his reputation and labors will be remembered long much more effectively than any account that can be given by another.

THOMAS MERRILL.

Boston, May 25, 1866.

I need not the pleasure of knowing Mr. Daggett personally, for I cannot come and it does me pleasure to say that as far as my knowledge extends, I believe (and worthy of the very high character ascribed to him by Mr. Merrill as above).

HORACE MANN.

These are words of high praise, but only such as were well deserved by Mr. Daggett both at that early period of his life and ever after, for his course as a man commanded the respect of all who knew him, and as a lawyer the confidence of all who employed him.

He began very early to take an active interest in the cause of common-school education in this town—at or about the time when Horace Mann was secretary of the Board of Education and rendered such distinguished services not only to Massachusetts but to the country. Mr. Daggett was a member of the school committee in town for fully fifteen years, and during the greater part of that time was its chairman. He labored earnestly and conscientiously in this direction, because he fully comprehended the importance of free and general education to the highest success of a republican form of government. He lived long enough to see marvellous improvements in this direction throughout the entire land, and witnessed with great satisfaction the fulfillment of many of his wishes for advancement in the public schools of his own town. He was for many years a leading man in his parish, that of the Second Precinct, and for a number of years the chairman of its committee—this latter at a time when an unusual amount of responsibility fell upon the committee, both financially and in other directions.

On June 18, 1810, he was married in Sutton, this State, to Miss Nancy McChesley Boomer, a daughter of Rev. Job B. Boomer, then a resident of that town, where she was born, September 29, 1813. They had seven children, five of whom died in infancy or at an early age. The two surviving are John Mayhew Daggett, a resident of Marianna, Ark., and Amelia Maxey Daggett (Mrs. George St. John Sheffield), now a resident of Attleborough. Up to the time of his marriage Mr. Daggett resided with his family at the old homestead, and continued to do so for perhaps a year thereafter. He then removed to the village, and for a few years lived in the two-story house which stood, until within a comparatively recent date, between "the long block" and the residence of the late William M. Fisher, on North Main Street, and which now stands directly back of that site, having been moved to make place for Crandall's Block. The estate of Mr. A. A. Richardson, the founder of the school fund, came into his hands to settle, and about 1844 a farm on the "old post road," a mile from the village, being a portion of this estate, was put up by him, as executor, for sale at public auction. Bidding was by no means brisk, and to make a beginning in that direction Mr. Daggett himself made an offer, but with neither desire nor intention

to purchase. Not another bidding voice was raised, and the farm was consequently "struck off" to him. He therefore took up his residence there, and also removed his office from the village.

He occupied the place for about thirty years, becoming deeply attached to it, and he spoke of those years as the happiest of his life. There six of his seven children were born, and there four of them died. The freedom and independence of life on a farm were very agreeable to him, and he took much pleasure in superintending such work as he carried on upon his place, so far as the time not occupied by his professional duties permitted. He was greatly interested in fruit-growing, and took special satisfaction each year in watching the growth of his vegetable garden. During his long residence he made many changes and improvements, particularly in the house, which was a pleasant and comfortable home, and both he and his wife were always delighted to greet the many guests who crossed their threshold. Under their reign the house was a most hospitable one. In our homely but expressive New England phrase, "the latchstring was always out." Relatives, friends, and acquaintances were cordially welcomed, and in that sincere and hearty way which made them feel perfectly at home; young people made merry as they willed beneath the venerable roof, or about the entire place, and many large social gatherings of young and old together have been held within the time-honored walls of their cheerful dwelling. During a score or more of years this house vied with the Holmans' in its pleasing, kindly hospitality, and there was a lifelong intimacy between the heads of the two households. In former days the agreeable duty of entertaining lecturers from abroad devolved upon Mr. Daggett more frequently perhaps than upon anyone else, and in this way he added to his long list of acquaintances among prominent people. His cultured mind and courteous manners eminently fitted him to assume the prominent social position in town which he held for many years. Clergymen were especially welcomed in this family, and whenever the village church was without a settled pastor those who came to supply the pulpit were often guests at this old farmhouse fireside, and various pleasant friendships were thus formed.

In 1850 Mr. Daggett was again called upon to represent his town in the Legislature, and this time in the Senate. He was appointed a member of the Valuation Board, whose session occupied about four months of that year, at the State House. In 1852 he was appointed "Register of Probate and Insolvency for Bristol County," by Governor Clifford, and twice afterwards elected by the people to the same office for terms of four years each, thus continuing in the office for eleven years. This necessitated his traveling back and forth to Taunton nearly every day for that length of time, and, notwithstanding the distance of his house from the depot, the difficulty of driving over bad roads and through severe storms, the delays relating to business in town or home work, and, most of all, the many inconveniences

attending his business, he never lost a train. Once or twice he was assisted in getting on the cars just starting, and once or twice, seeing his carriage men, the engineer obligingly delayed starting his engine for a few seconds; but so exact was he that he was almost always very punctual. He was as conscientious in the position of register as in every other which he occupied, and careful and exact in the work of recording. He very rarely remained away from Taunton an entire day for his own rest or pleasure, and if business required his presence elsewhere for a time, the preceding days, or those following, were made longer, so that his every duty in the office there was strictly performed. Though he carried on various kinds of work, and though that in his profession was often both wearisome and exhausting physically and mentally, the regular rest of a summer vacation (this never came to him), and he but infrequently left home for more than a day for any purpose other than the better accomplishment of work in which he might be engaged. He could labor hard and uninterruptedly for many years, preserving health of body and mind to a good old age, partly, no doubt, because his fires were kind in a country town and not in the midst of the all-absorbing activity of a great city, and partly because his generation had not fortunately reached the extreme of the rush and hurry of the present time, when it would seem that "every man's hand is against his neighbor," and competition in all occupations, professional or otherwise, makes the gaining of a livelihood a fight on the part of each, and every man against the world.

During the civil war Mr. Daggett took a very active part in the patriotic work of the town. Precluded both by age and physical infirmity from personal service in the army, he nevertheless worked devotedly and unceasingly in every other way that was possible. His voice and pen were busy, and he gave freely, so far as he was able, toward forwarding every movement requiring money to accomplish its purpose. He was one of the leaders in all the many war meetings held, and foremost in all patriotic assemblies. He was continually appointed chairman of such meetings; he drafted resolutions, prepared and delivered numerous speeches, and faithfully performed the varied and onerous duties of a prominent and loyal citizen in the noble work done by Attleborough during those years of difficulty and danger to the government and the country. In 1866 he again represented the town in the Legislature, this time in the lower branch, and with this service his public political career ceased.

Some ten or twelve years before his death he removed again to the village of Attleborough and opened an office in his residence there, on Bank Street. He continued to practise his profession literally until the hand of death was upon him, for he did not wholly lay aside the harness of work until the very last day of his life. Had Mr. Daggett done no more work than that of which an outline has been given, his life would have been a busy and industrious one; but beyond the performance of his many public and professional

duties he found time for varied and extensive literary and historical research. He was a thorough and devoted antiquarian, and he embraced with avidity every opportunity for obtaining facts relating to the early history not only of his native town and its inhabitants, but of other towns in the State. Indeed, every historical fact bearing upon the early history of New England and of its inhabitants, even before they left their native shores, was full of interest to him, and he was so careful and exact in verifying all items that came to his notice that he became reliable authority on such matters. His fondness for research of this nature commenced with his early youth, possibly, indeed during the years of his childhood, for at the family fireside he must then have listened to many tales of the days of the Revolution, in which his grandfather took so conspicuous a part, or to stories of Indian adventure and attack, made the more impressive from the fact that a sort of mongrel remnant of some savage tribe once lived on his homestead farm.

Having occasion, some time in 1830, to prepare a lecture to be delivered before the Attleborough Lyceum, — when he was about twenty-five, — he chose for his theme the early history of his town. This developed so decided an interest in that subject that he was induced to enlarge upon the contents of his address and prepare it for publication in book form. Four years later he published his “Sketch of the History of Attleborough,” of which the following pages are an enlargement and continuation. He never wholly relinquished inquiries in the line of this publication, but followed up every clue he obtained which promised further information upon the subject, corresponding with people in almost every part of this country, and even to some extent in England. In the course of years great store of interesting matter was collected, and many rare and valuable books, manuscripts, and papers came into his possession. For a long period he cherished the idea of publishing another and more complete edition of his early “Sketch,” and quite a number of years before his death he began regular and continuous work in the carrying out of this plan. Most unfortunately he was unable to accomplish his purpose, for death called him from his labors ere this ever-increasing task was completed. Meanwhile he prepared a lengthy sketch of the town history, chiefly copied from his own publication, for the “History of Bristol County,” and by his suggestions and advice rendered valuable aid to the compiler of that work. He prepared other local historical sketches, and frequently gave material assistance to persons engaged in similar occupations elsewhere.

After the death of Dr. Samuel B. Parris, a young man of rare intellectual abilities and attainments and a physician of great promise, who settled in this town, Mr. Daggett made a collection of his writings, which were quite numerous. From these he made selections which he published, together with a memoir of their author, which he wrote. This little book was entitled

"Patriot Remains." Mr. Duggett also wrote for some years in the editorial line while in charge of a newspaper, and also during his earlier years many short poems, displaying in that direction some considerable talent. A number of these appeared as special contributions to the *Durham Patriot*, the paper he at one time edited. None of these were found, but among his papers a copy of the *Old Tidings Messenger*, dated October 17, 1879, was discovered, in which the following poem appeared:—

[For the Messenger.]

Meet me beneath the dark oak and yew tree links,
Meet me where a herb waters gleam;
Where gentle streamlets rise senseless on
Ard heat with me to grassy slope.

Meet me beneath the shady grove,
Where stranger's foot may never tread;
A secret world of hidden beauty may be seen—
Where spring its robe of green has spread.

Meet me beneath the ancient yew tree links,
Come out to soft and fragrant fields;
Where passion, that the world might scorn
To word be and comfort of sight.

Meet me beneath the evening skies,
Where stars are gleaming brightly there,
As if a thousand currents ran
Were nothing but a stream so fair.

Yes, I have come from many haunts,
No captured birds are ever half tame,
But the pure beauty's fully expressed
And the sweet music's not sung out.

Now let the shades of the fall appear,
And return the twilight's glow;
Where the softest of nature's tones
And breathe their melody sweet and low.

I will not give to any creature
In this life more than nature gives;
My blessing goes and shall return
Mid music's beauty and life's grace.

Oh! as they utter a few words of cheer,
That give a wish which never comes true;
That make a rich contentment and grace;
I know that I will need them too!

In 1881, the fifty-first anniversary of American Independence was celebrated in town, and this reference and possibly recall that special occasion to the consciousness of a few people still living. The public exercises were held in the Second Congregational Church, and the program states that Rev. Mr. Ferguson offered the prayer, Dr. Phineas Savery read the Declaration of Independence, and the writer of this book delivered the

oration. Several appropriate pieces were sung and the following ode, composed for the occasion by the writer (Mr. Daggett), was also sung:—

Hail! welcome day of Freedom's birth,
The day of glory to the free!
We'll praise our fathers' deeds of worth,
While grateful hearts shall welcome thee.

Oh, let our thanks arise to those
Who for our country bled or died;
Who met on battlefields our foes,
And, glorious, triumphed o'er their pride.

Let praise ascend in noblest strains
To those who stood on Bunker's height,
Who bled on Trenton's gory plains,
Or died in Monmouth's fatal fight.

And now to those who nobly bleed
In distant lands for Freedom's right,
Oh, grant, kind heaven, the victor's meed,
And round them spread fair Freedom's light.

Rejoice, ye sons of Liberty!
The nations spurn the tyrants' chains;
Behold the banners of the free
On Gallia's hills and Belgium's plains.

Again the sons of Poland rise,
Behold their ancient banners fly!
They've nobly sworn, by earth and skies,
They'll "freemen live or freemen die."

Our fathers' God, accept our lay,
For all our nation's blessings given,
While here, on Freedom's hallowed day,
We raise our joyful songs to heaven!

Mr. Daggett was, during the course of his life, frequently called upon to prepare and deliver addresses before various organizations, and upon occasions of public celebration, both at home and abroad. The position of toast-master was one he filled admirably, and one which for many years he was oftener called upon to occupy than any person in town. He was always happy in the selection of matter, and acceptable in his manner of presenting toasts, and especially apt in his responses to those of others, for he was quick and witty, and his large fund of general information made him an interesting speaker no matter what the subject might be. He was a very extensive reader, and the amount of time he always found to devote to this pleasurable occupation was remarkable considering how much he was obliged to employ in the other interests of his life. His favorite studies while in college were belles-lettres and the classics, and he always to some extent kept up his Greek, of which language he was particularly fond. His tastes, therefore, led him naturally to prefer historical and poetical works, and in the former line he had perhaps read as much as any man in his generation.

This did not prevent his informing himself intelligently upon scientific and practical matters, and upon the varied questions and interests of the day. He read rapidly, but was able to digest and retain what he read, and thus his mind became stored with a great amount of entertaining and useful knowledge, which he was able to impart agreeably to those who conversed with him. He was always a favorite in society, both with old and young, for he had the happy faculty of adapting himself for the time being to the ages or attachments of those persons with whom he might accidentally be thrown. He enjoyed, perhaps more than all else, conversing with guests at his own fireside, and after advancing years compelled him in large measure to relinquish public duties and outside society he was especially gratified when friends and neighbors "dropped in" after the pleasant country fashion for a social chat. One of his near neighbors during the latter years of his life used often to say: "I blame myself much that I do not for my own sake oftener spend an hour in Mr. Daggett's company, for his conversation on every subject is very entertaining, and I always learn from him something new and interesting."

Mr. Daggett lived a life of marked temperance, not in eating and drinking alone, but in all things, and in that way only, with his impaired vitality, did he continue to maintain the uniform good health which enabled him to accomplish so much work with so much ease. He was extremely regular and methodical in many of his ways. One thing which shows this was his habit of stepping out on the piazza of his house every morning at a few minutes past seven o'clock to look at the thermometer. He used to say laughingly that he could not tell anything about the weather, or whether he himself was cold or warm, until he had consulted that little instrument of advice. Be the weather or the season what it might, he always put on a hat — usually a tall one of somewhat ancient style and by no means in the highest state of preservation — to perform this ceremony. For years, neighbors "across the way" witnessed this daily occurrence from their breakfast table, always sure, as it occurred, of the exact hour. For a long time after his death they found for themselves again and again, at the accustomed hour, looking over the street for the familiar form, and among the many little things which went to make up a pleasant daily intercourse between the two families they missed this not with its oft-given friendly nod of greeting to themselves most of all.

Mr. Daggett never used tobacco in any form. He had one experience with the weed, which he occasionally related, and which in its effects was similar to the earlier one with profanity. When quite a lad his father upon one occasion sent him to bring the regular supply to one of the paupers then at the farm. It occurred to him that what seemed enjoyable to an old man might be equally so to a younger, and he tried a generous mouthful. The severe and very disagreeable attack of illness which speedily followed effectually cured him of any desire to repeat the experiment, and he never

attempted to smoke. He was a firm believer in the real temperance cause. He did not in any way set himself up as a reformer in this direction, but he was a thoroughly consistent temperance man. He frankly acknowledged he had a fondness for the taste of wines and liquors, and that their moderate use would give him pleasure and produce beneficial results; but realizing the possibility of danger to many from even moderate indulgence, he habitually abstained from the use of all intoxicants. The highest motive—that of principle—guided him in this as in other things. He had, however, very little to say about his principles—he never preached about them, never yielded to that mistaken sense of duty which prompts dictation to others, but contented himself with simply practising what he believed to be right, and he was a shining example of the truth of the saying that “a life of moderation in all things is the highest type of life,” and one whose influence for good must be widely felt.

He was a very reserved man in some respects, and he rarely gave utterance to the most profound feelings of his nature. On the subject of personal religion, therefore, he did not often speak, though that he felt deeply there can be no doubt. His life was guided by the highest principles of morality and rectitude. He was always a constant attendant upon public worship, and an attentive listener to the preachers whom he heard, thus setting a good example to many who professed more than he did. This regularity in attending divine service was broken up only during the very last part of his life, for when he became unable without extreme physical exertion to walk from his house to the centre of the village, a thoughtful friend called Sabbath after Sabbath at his door with a carriage and took him to and from the meetinghouse. He contributed freely as much as, and sometimes more than, he could afford toward the support of the church which he attended—the Second Congregational—and toward religious and other charitable objects, but he never became a church member. None the less was his the life of a good man, and one of his pastors has said: “I consider him one of the Christians outside of the church.”

The study of law in itself, and its practice in certain branches, was agreeable to Mr. Daggett, and in these directions he was successful. His reputation as a professional man was spotless and he well merited the high compliment paid him by a fellow alumnus upon a certain commencement anniversary. This gentleman said in his after-dinner speech that among her lawyer sons Brown had one of whom she had just cause to be unusually proud, for, said he, “He is an honest lawyer, and he never told a lie.” He was considered an excellent consulting lawyer, and his discretion and probity were unquestioned. He never acted in criminal cases, and accepted only such as seemed to him to have right and justice to recommend them. He ranked among the best of lawyers, because he could rise above the question of personal aggrandizement and emoluments and consider primarily the advantage

of his clients. It was always his advice to people, whenever such a course was possible, to settle cases by arbitration and to avoid litigation. By his good judgment and wise and conciliatory counsel he often accomplished the settlement of cases in this friendly manner, when the majority of lawyers perhaps could not have done so, thus saving the contending parties much time and money and infinite worry and trouble. The confidence reposed in his unprejudiced judgment was so strong that he was more than once consulted by both parties to contests. He seemed capable of comprehending all sides of questions connected with his profession, and to form unbiased opinions, and he could, therefore, give good advice to both parties without betraying the confidences of either side. In this manner, no doubt, he effected many settlements in the manner mentioned — by arbitration.

Those cases which involved questions of ancient law, and the necessity for research among old records, always gave him great pleasure to work up and try, and his preparations were made with nicety and exactness. One case of this kind is recalled, the gaining of which gave him peculiar satisfaction. It involved the question of a public right-of-way in a footpath crossing a certain field near the Falls village, and the opposing counsel was a lifelong and intimate friend. Mr. Daggett took the ground that time and precedent had established the public's right to the use of the path, and that the owner of the field had no right to close it. The opposing friends had lengthy discussions upon this matter in Mr. Daggett's office, but, needless to say to any who knew the two gentlemen, neither could convince the other that he was wrong. In due time the case came to trial. Mr. Daggett's proof of his opinion was based largely upon the fact that the old laws of Massachusetts recognized the establishment of such paths or "lanes," and he cited the names of several such still open and used by the public in the city of Boston. He clinched his arguments by quoting several paragraphs from two different books published some time previously by his opponent, in which he — their author — was shown to have recognized the same kind of public rights which Mr. Daggett then sought to establish. He thus condemned his opponent out of his own mouth, and won the case. This was a kind of triumph he thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed, and he did a good deal of quiet chuckling over his success in this instance, because his adversary was both a clever man and lawyer.

What may be termed the strictly professional part of his profession was in harmony with Mr. Daggett's tastes, but the purely business portion was somewhat irksome to him. The keeping of accounts and the presenting of bills were matters very easily put off, and indeed very frequently forgotten altogether. His list of "charity clients," including those who paid only in "blessings," was always a long one, while among those who were willing and desirous to pay for services rendered there were many whom he insisted upon calling "neighbors" and "friends," for whom as such prices were

reduced. The consequences to his income are easily calculated; but it was inborn in his nature to dislike the process of accepting remuneration for work he did, and equally in his nature to take great pleasure in using his time and talents and the results of his experience and research for the benefit or the gratification of others. More than this, he frequently took financial risks in order to assist friends or clients, and through the failure of some of these to meet their obligations he suffered severe and irretrievable losses, thus becoming unable to meet some of his own obligations during the later period of his life. All such losses he bore without bitter complaints against those through whose misfortune or carelessness they came upon him, though he felt none the less keenly their consequences both to himself and others, as occasional expressions made to those who knew him best clearly showed. All the many trials of his life he met with the calmness and dignity possible only to those who possess strong and earnest characters. From a strictly business point of view, actions like some of his may seem worthy of nothing but condemnation, but, as they often have for their underlying motive the generous desire only to render needed assistance to fellow creatures in trouble, they, on the other hand, deserve the highest commendation. Every truly unselfish act — no matter what the immediate or apparent result may be — must in some degree benefit its doer and him for whom it is done; and we feel sure that the higher records will bear testimony to the purity of purpose prompting many such deeds in the life of him of whom we write, and that “*verily, he shall have his reward.*”

Of a modest and retiring disposition, Mr. Daggett never pushed himself forward, but left to others the task of finding out his merits. Indeed he never seemed to fully appreciate his own talents and acquirements, or adequately to value his professional services. He did not seek office, but if elected to places of public trust, he was certain to “do with his might what his hands found to do,” in the best interests of his constituents. He was equally conscientious in the performance of the ordinary duties of a private citizen. In politics he was a whig, later a republican, and a stanch adherent to the true precepts of those parties. He often took a leading part in political meetings, and frequently prepared the resolves which they had occasion to adopt. The rights of citizenship in our great American Republic were valuable in his eyes, and their exercise always an important matter. He deemed it every man’s duty to vote upon questions before the public, whether party issues were great or small, and he himself was always to be found at town-meetings, whether the part he played there was a prominent one or simply that of casting his ballot. He never willingly omitted this duty, and he never laid it aside, for friends, knowing his feelings on this subject, arranged for his speedy and comfortable conveyance to and from the polling places during the years of his old age.

For upwards of a quarter of a century he was a member of the New England Genealogical Historical Society. In 1854 the Old Colony Historical

Society was formed in Tuxton, and he was one of its constituent members. The first president was Nathaniel Minton, Esq. His death occurred two years later, and Mr. Daggett was chosen chairman of the committee appointed to prepare a suitable series of resolutions thereupon, and at the society's meeting, held April 14, 1850, when these resolutions were presented for approval, he was chosen president. He retained the office until his death, a period of almost thirty years, though during the latter part of the time his increasing years and somewhat enfeebled physical condition prevented his regular attendance upon meetings.

It was allotted to Mr. and Mrs. Daggett to have almost a half-century of married life. On June 18, 1880, the anniversary of their wedding, quite a number of neighbors and friends gathered at their pleasant home to offer congratulations upon the occasion. Our town poet—a valued friend of the family—brought her good wishes in rhyme, and it seems appropriate to give here her pretty description of the forty years of life's journey these two had traveled together, and Mr. Daggett's reply rendered in verse—the last he wrote:—

The ages, in *forty* years,
Hath taken me "Wife."
And the saint of Love, *quintillions*,
My thought has made.

We left the veil of forty years—
Pace to outflow its hopes and fears;
I've seen *Along* the river of thought
And see the *stranges* time hath wrought;
I've palfrants with *their* iron hand,
Had run and *lost* all year the land;
I've telegraph with *magic* wire,
Had utilized the lightning's fire,
I've cubic *randomness*'s floor,
On telephone *from* door to door;
When "Weekly" the newspaper came,
With news that seemed *new* and *new* named;
When neighbors' *guys* went out to help,
And Bridget, like the *typical* kelp,
Still clung to her *asynthetic* shutes,
Not yet had *hatched* Yankee shutes;
When matrons of an afternoon
Went out to tea, and *luncheon* kept them;
From *Chorus* from the *warm* water,
To *friction*, *speed* and *sharp* heat tonight,
And no one in the tower had seen
A *knitting* or *sewing* machine;
That were a *truss* of *modern* cloth,
A *quint* of silk, with *hild* or *quint*;
And *quintillions* *quint* to wonder then,
They seemed *so* old to children's men.

Time *Saturday* was looking dry
Not with *passions*, *then* *stand* at *quint*;

The gaping oven opens wide,
 — The bread-trough standing close beside —
 The bread and pudding each in turn.
 (Meanwhile, in shady porch the churn,
 Full of rich cream, awaiting stands.
 No Oleo then the taste to cheat,
 Made up of what we won't repeat,
 But *butter* golden, rich and rare,
 The skillful hands with pride prepare.)
 The oven's ready: beat the cake;
 The pies of golden pumpkin make;
 The custard too of milk and cream,
 Not milk shook up by jarring team.
 Father to clear the oven comes.
 Wake visions of our early homes.
 Let not the homely mem'ries sleep;
 The toils and pleasures sacred keep.
 The mother of our host! to-day,
 Her name shall mingle with our lay,
 The beauty of her womanhood;
 Her common sense, uncommon good.
 To her he owes the gentle grace,
 That smiles so calmly in his face;
 Refinement of the heart and air
 That makes him welcome everywhere
 As Attleborough's noble son;
Her honored, loved historian.

I will not, really cannot say
 (For that was just before my day)
 If all the maidens fair in town,
 Looked with approval or a frown,
 When this young squire went just outside
 To choose a young and blooming bride.
 But this I know, that grafted fruit
 Is oft more choice than native shoot.
 She came to cheer and share his life;
 These many years a loving wife.
 Changes that come to all have come;
 Sunshine and darkness filled the home,
 Not everything the heart could wish
 Drops into the uplifted dish.
 Sometimes the cup with joy o'erflows;
 By little graves, seems full of woes,
 But the good God, high over all,
 Notes e'en the tiny sparrow's fall —
 And says: "Fear not, whate'er betide,
 Thy Saviour still is at thy side."

The years have brought the frost of age,
 The kind deeds still her hands engage.
 We see her deck the blushing bride,
 And stand the sufferer's couch beside;
 Refraining from no work of good
 We think, "She hath done what she could."

Meet the old hero, that is passing now,
 Among a gay assembly passing through
 Creation's All, opposed to those great ones,
 And meet the *Hero* of great sorrows,
 With wounds invisible! Meet the martyr,
 With faith and hope and charity not dead,
 And quickly would he dare to avow,
 If not on earth, at least in heaven.

From this long stage of life we turn, however,
 Back to the field of battle, to other wars,
 Where Fame's light flames the morning skies,
 And sound-blasting Spring its stormy courses

In vain we look for those, in youth's bright day,
 Who trod the path with us when we began,
 But dropped their burdens on the weary way,
 Where none, it seems, have traced life's shadowy span.

Thus we passed a happy time and found repose,
 But left as here our journey were to end;
 We'd patient trod the path they trod before,
 And meet them where we reach our journey's end.

We'll cheerful walk our life's allotted span,
 For of its setting sun we seem as bright;
 In age, where tracing slowly life's smooth decline,
 As when, in youth, it stood its morning light.

We leave the Past behind and look around,
 On coming years, which let our lot may be,
 When other forty years have run their round,
 May God of you be here again to see!

On the tenth of February, 1886, there was a gathering of friends at Mr. Daggett's residence to congratulate him on attaining his eightieth birthday—which proved to be his last. At this time a number of his fellow citizens united in presenting him with a substantial proof of their good wishes in the form of a handsome purse of money.

Throughout his life Mr. Daggett enjoyed for the most part uniform good health, occasional attacks of a rheumatic nature being the only interruptions (and this continued until the very last year he lived). In the autumn of 1884 he took what he called a very severe cold, from which he did not rally for months; indeed he never fully recovered, for this illness proved to be "the beginning of the end." In the spring and early summer of 1885 the very severe and dangerous illness of his wife caused him great anxiety, and just when this had begun in some measure to be relieved he was thrown from a carriage and narrowly escaped with his life. The outward injuries were apparently slight, and he recuperated with wonderful rapidity considering his advanced age; but the internal shock he sustained produced an unfavorable effect upon his weakening system, and from that he never

recovered. As the autumn again advanced the "cold," as he insisted upon calling it, again attacked him and he suffered at times considerably from pain: but more and continuously from inability to breathe with any degree of ease or comfort. During this time he passed many sleepless nights, walking from room to room, resting now and again perhaps for a few moments in his chair or on some couch, and going repeatedly to the door to gain an instant's relief from inhaling the fresh outer air. Even after weeks of this experience his vitality was so great that it was thought he would live on for some time, but that probably he could not survive the entire winter. The end therefore came much sooner than was expected, and very suddenly. Weary and weak as he had long been, he never wholly gave up work, for only twenty-four hours before he died he walked slowly and painfully from his sitting-room to his office and tried to attend to the wants of a client. The hand of death was even then laid heavily upon him, but his quiet, uncomplaining fortitude prevented this from being realized by those about him. He attempted to do what was asked of him, but his, until then, ever-willing hands refused to perform their wonted offices. He probably realized himself the meaning of this failure, but he made no sign. With his usual gentle courtesy he apologized for his inability to serve the person in waiting, and with the old familiar phrase begged him to "call again in a few days" when he should probably be better of his ailment and could attend to the business required.

His last day of life was comparatively free from suffering and can be recalled without painful sorrow by those who were with him at the time. In the early evening of Sunday, December 13, 1885, at the age of eighty years, ten months and three days, he passed away — quiet and peaceful in his death as he had ever been in his life. He died of no special disease, but because his physical powers were worn out, because the work allotted him to do on earth was, in the eyes of the Supreme Ruler, finished. For a year or two previous to his death a slight imperfection in his hearing was at times noticeable, but his eyesight always remained wholly unimpaired. In this way he was remarkable, for he never wore glasses, and was always able to read fine print with ease and to write readily by lamplight — the one a habit formed for pleasure, the other a custom he had been obliged to adopt and follow constantly, a great deal of his writing, both professional and literary, having been done after nightfall. He retained all his mental faculties to an unusual degree, for there was never the slightest diminution in this regard apparent. His mind was perfectly clear to the very last, for he conversed rationally and distinctly in a manner to show his comprehension of himself and his surroundings frequently during his last hours, and spoke in the same clear and sensible way only a few moments before his decease. His friends were happily spared the grief of witnessing the decay of his bright intellect, for he had no days of feeble, helpless "second childhood," either physi-

early or essentially, and the pleasures of the life he loved — the life of read-
companionship with books and pen — were never denied to him. That were
enjoyed and appreciated with the eager zest of his earlier years even to the
very end.

Mrs. Daggett survived her husband only six months. She died at the
residence of Miss Susan Thacher on Bank Street, June 22, 1886, after a
long and extremely painful illness which had severely shattered her body,
and to some extent her mind, but could never quench her brave and cheer-
ful spirit. She was buried by the side of her husband and children in the
"Old Kirk Yard." With the death of these two one of Attleborough's
pleasanteest homes for nearly fifty years was broken up, though cherished
memories of it and of them will long remain.

Mr. Daggett had been president of the trustees of the Richardson school
fund since the first board was elected; a period of more than forty years.
At a meeting of this board of Trustees held December 16, 1885, the follow-
ing, among several other resolutions, was unanimously adopted: — *Resolved*,
That we mourn the removal of a wise and faithful President of this corpo-
ration, and the loss to this community of a citizen whose public spirit and
whose courteous and honorable character have won the respect and regard
of all."

On January 22, 1886, the annual meeting of the Old Colony Historical
Society was held at Taunton. In the course of his address, reviewing the
year just past, the Vice-president, Rev. S. Hopkins Emory, in speaking of
Mr. Daggett, said: "I cannot refrain from expressing my deep sense of
personal bereavement, and the exceeding great value of the deceased to the
Old Colony Historical Society as a member and an officer. His industry in
historical research, his unimpaired reputation in his profession as a lawyer
and in social life made his name a tower of strength, a credit and a comfort
to us. We have abundant reason to mourn his loss." A memorial of Mr.
Daggett prepared by the Society's historiographer, Judge Fuller, was read
at this meeting, and after the election of officers his successor as president,
Mr. Emory, proposed the following action upon his death, which the
society adopted: — *Whereas*, The Hon. John Daggett, second President of
the Old Colony Historical Society, who had served it in that capacity nearly
thirty years, has recently been called away by death. This is to record our
appreciation, as a society, of the high moral character of the deceased —
those affirmative qualities of mind and heart which so endeared him to his
friends and brought such honor to this society over which he so long presided.
In his profession as a lawyer, in all the offices of responsibility and trust
which he was called to fill, his reputation was unimpaired. Ever courteous,
polite, and kind, he was deservedly popular. With a natural aptitude for
historical research, he was eminently successful in gathering rich stores of
facts concerning his own town in particular, and the Old Colony generally;

so that, although dead, he will yet live as the historian of Attleborough and the long-time President of the Historical Society, of which he was an original member."

The librarian of the society, in writing of him and referring to their long and pleasant acquaintance of over sixty years, says: "No man living ever held my esteem and regard so warmly as John Daggett. We elected and reelected him our President year after year, and never was an opposing vote given to supersede him while living. I say this that it may be known in what estimation he was held and how he was appreciated by his Taunton friends and members of the society." The same writer, Mr. J. W. D. Hall, in an obituary notice printed in a Taunton paper, further says: "He has also been several years preparing a more elaborate history of that flourishing town (Attleborough), its ancient and modern enterprises and industries that have grown up to annual millions, which he leaves in manuscript. He has also devoted some of his leisure time to the investigation of the Old Colony and North Purchase settlements in connection with the original lines of the ancient town of Rehoboth, and was one of the most thoroughly posted antiquarians. His genial kindliness, courtesy, and integrity of character, as a counselor and friend — always ready to say a kind word, never a hard one — secured for him the title of 'honest John Daggett,' which he wore with modest grace and merit from his college days, during these sixty years, to the time when 'death claimed a shining mark.' He has passed away, but his lifelong deeds of kindness will live after him, and his memory as the Christian gentleman will ever be cherished."

A Mr. Everett, of East Princeton, this State, a descendant of Attleborough people who emigrated to that town in 1764, wrote thus in a communication dated December 27, 1885, which he sent to the *Advocate*: "I formed the acquaintance of Mr. Daggett, in the House of Representatives in Boston, in the winter of 1836. I was more interested in Mr. Daggett, not alone from his representing Old Attleborough in the Legislature, but from the fact that we were two of the four youngest members of the House of Representatives, and were in age from twenty-eight to thirty. Julius Rockwell, now Judge of the Superior Court of our State, and the talented statesman and keen debater, and Robert Rantoul, Jr., were the other two young members referred to. Mr. Daggett never made speeches — certainly never to exhibit egotistically any pride of oratory. He was an influential member of any committee upon which he was placed. He was always on duty, carefully examining every bill or resolve presented, and never giving his approval to any act or measure that was not approved by his judgment for the good of the State. As a friend he was always social, agreeable, and confiding. He was eminently a true Christian gentleman. But his life work is done, and he has passed over the river to the immortal shores of the better land, and has had accorded to him the 'Welcome, good and faithful servant.'" This inter-

entire article closes with these words: "Well! Attleborough of one hundred and twenty years ago was partly a farming town; but now various industries of this farming age compose too much the honest farmer's toil and produce. But anyway, may blessings rest on old Attleborough ever more!"—a sentiment which would have met with a truly heartfelt response from the lips of him whose death occasioned the writing of the remembrance, some of which have been quoted, could he but have read it.

A townsman writes of him as "one of the oldest and perhaps best known citizens of Attleborough." (And it is perhaps needless to say that his reputation was not confined to his native town.) "But for him the history of the town would probably have been a blank to this day. When we remember that Mr. Daggett had been fifty-five years a practising lawyer and that he retained his activity until the very last, going from his room to his office to meet a client the day before his death, we may form some conception of the amount of valuable work he had in its aggregate accomplished. He saw the town of Attleborough increase its population more than tenfold, and his native village grow from a church, a tavern, and three dwellings to its present flourishing condition. He was a man of active mind, careful and shrewd in his profession, a well-read antiquarian and historian, and kept thoroughly up with the political and social movements of his time. In his family he was kind and courteous, and much attached to those bound to him in the ties of kin. His manners were learned in the time when children were taught politeness and courtesy was not a lost art. He carried into his converse with every one a dignity yet pleasantness of demeanor which is seldom met in the younger generation. He will be missed throughout the wide circle of friends and acquaintances which his fourscore years of life had gathered about him. He goes to his rest full of years and of deeds."

Another townsman writes: "Although in his later years he has been compelled to lead a more quiet life, for many years he was prominent in public affairs and since his retirement has exercised a steady influence, being frequently sought for counsel and information, not only on matters directly connected with his profession, but upon literary and historical subjects, upon which he was an acknowledged authority. For over half a century he continued his legal practice, reduced of course in amount in his later years. He was particular about having only cases which he thought were founded on justice, and identified himself heartily with his client's interests. In many ways he was helpful to those in need of legal services, and ever seemed more anxious to be of service than to win a financial gain. As a public servant he was careful, faithful, honorable, servicable, and respected, recognized as an equal among experienced legislators and officials. His greatest taste was for antiquarian researches and historical information. He probably knew more about Attleborough people and their connections all over the country than any other person. With nice literary tastes and possessing a large library,

he was well read, not only in standard literature, but in all the events, literary, social, and political, of the present time. He was a pleasant converser, and ever ready to give to others, in a most gracious way, the results of his long experience. His character was pure, his bearing dignified, his manners courtly, his disposition kind. Retiring in his manners, for one so useful in a public way, he was a very approachable man, seeking no honors, shirking no responsibilities. He realized in its fullest sense the word gentleman. A good, well-balanced, honorable, useful life was rounded with a sleep."

An old lawyer friend speaks of him as a better *lawyer* than *advocate*, saying that while he prepared his cases well and thoroughly, he disturbed himself over the closing of the same to the jury, and therefore almost always had Mr. Clifford or Mr. Read, or some other of their special class, make the closing arguments for him. The same friend says again: "He was interested in and thoroughly read in Probate Law. He was not a man of great force or executive ability, but as counselor he was thorough and reliable. He enjoyed the esteem and confidence of all who were brought in contact with him as a man or lawyer. Frankness, and not duplicity, was his leading characteristic."

In the necrology of Brown University for the year 1885-86 may be found the following words relating to Mr. Daggett: "His legal and general knowledge and his good judgment, together with his public spirit and integrity and fidelity, won for him the confidence and the suffrages of his townsmen, and also ensured him success in the different places of trust which he filled. He also found time for literary and historical studies. His interest in inquiries and studies pertaining to the objects of these societies (the Old Colony Historical and New England Genealogical Society) induced him to write and publish the history of his native town of Attleborough, a task which he so worthily discharged as to win for him, with the respect and love of his townsmen, the name and influence of an authority in all that pertained to the annals of their town. Yet apart from that good service he was widely known and esteemed in Attleborough, and a popular man throughout the State."

Mr. Daggett was to the last days of his life a loyal son of his Alma Mater. To the last he preserved a fresh and active interest in all that pertained to the welfare and progress of the university, and he especially delighted when within its loved borders to talk over with his classmates and fellow students, as they gathered there from year to year, the well remembered and deeply cherished experiences of their college life.

Mr. Daggett's funeral occurred December 17, 1885. A very beautiful and touching service for the invalid wife was conducted at his residence by Rev. Mr. Barton. The members of the bar in town bore him on his final earthly journey, and a number of prominent citizens of his native village,

and old friends and representative men from all parts of the town attended him as bearers, or as a special mark of respect. It was fitting that his last resting-place this side the grave should be in the center of that church whose history he had followed with so much interest, for whose welfare he long and faithfully had labored, and whose wonted place within its walls had during more than threescore years and ten so seldom been vacant. Many friends from town and from abroad gathered there and followed him as he passed up its familiar aisle for the last time. Appropriate music was rendered and his favorite hymn, "Rock of Ages," was remembered. The discourse was delivered by Mr. Barton, and an outline of it follows.

"The leading facts about him we mourn have already been made public. His life covered an important period of the nation's history, and of the history of the world. He was born, 1805; died 1885; a brief statement; but how much happened between those dates, and how well he improved those years! The year of his birth Lord Nelson defeated the combined fleets of France and Spain at Trafalgar; in that year France became an empire. Our own country had about six millions of people. How great a change there is from the time one fellow citizen made his entrance into the world, to the time of his exit! What a contrast is his native town at his departure to what it was at his birth! This village in 1805 had a church, tavern, and three dwellings. For many years he wrought faithfully, was most active, respected, honored. He had an active hand, varied attainments, was public spirited, well informed on all public questions, and it is not strange that he was so serviceable to this town and to different generations. The profession of law seems to demand more real brain work than any other, though different in kind. Our most important temporal matters depend upon the work of the profession of which he was a wise, an honored, and an active member. His character was so real, so open, so well known, there seems little need to enlarge upon it to those familiar with him. Let us see how his life touched our own. In talking with him and finding the purity and loftiness of his motives, one was reminded of the text, 'Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report,' for he seemed to weave a harmony with these ideas. Always and easily a gentleman, he was never in too much haste to exchange civilities graciously and gracefully. His mind and heart were set upon the history of his native town." The speaker dwelt at large upon the value of this history, "to the student, to the patriotic, to all," and the patience, accuracy, and diligence which had been put into the work were highly commended. The discourse was closed with these words: "He was busily engaged in compiling facts for a larger and more complete history, but he is gone without accomplishing it. Oh, the facts which perished when this man died! Oh, the threads which ended when he passed away! Who will take up the work where he left it and complete the monument he was erecting?"

A long-time and honored friend, and the president of his loved institution, Dr. E. G. Robinson, of Brown University, then paid a most beautiful tribute to the life and character of Mr. Daggett, in words something like these: "Death, come when it may, and as often as it may, never fails to fill the mind with awe. For a [long] valued spirit entering upon the untried and unknown, we cannot grieve as for one smitten in early manhood, or in the midst of mature years. He was a shock of corn fully ripened and ready for the harvest. Not a self-seeker, not obtrusive, content with himself and the realities of his life, strikingly in contrast with the present men and times, never seeking favor, possessed of a good reputation, he was a man of far more ability than was always recognized. He really had a perfectly stainless character; he was a product of Christian civilization, a real man [a single-minded man], gentle to an excessive degree, modest, but real. Is there any higher plane? He was self-sacrificing, content to be simply faithful to his duty, honest in heart, purpose, and deed. He never sought office; it was thrust upon him. Many, nearly all, with whom he was associated in the law have passed away; they were men of ability and wide reputation. He was the last but one of his [college] class. He did not practice law chiefly for gain, but he performed much gratuitous service. He knew more about the old families of the town and their descendants than any other man in the State or country, and has preserved material for some one to complete and publish. He never allowed himself to be ruffled by men, he never ruffled any one else. Can the influence of such a man be anything but good? Pure, kind, faithful, helpful, gentle, he wrought his lifework and now he has fallen on sleep."

A townsman says: "At the completion of the services, one of the town's greatest men was laid at rest in the old kirkyard in the rear of the church." By the strong, kind hands of friends he was carried to that sacred spot, and by them gently and tenderly lowered into his grave. He lies in the place of his expressed desire, near his mother, in the soil he loved so well, surrounded by many members of his own family, and with many of his kindred near. May he rest there undisturbed till the last sound of time shall usher in eternity!

Such in brief was the life of John Daggett, such his death, and such a few of the honest, heartfelt expressions of commendation of his character and career. No man ever loved his native town with a deeper, warmer, more faithful and steadfast love than he, no man was ever more zealous in her cause or worked in her interests with a nobler, more generous fidelity than he. He has given tangible and enduring proof of the reality and earnestness of his affection by the careful collection and preservation of many of the facts to be found in this book, and the name to which the work entitles him — one he highly prized, and the one by which he will be best known and longest remembered, is the name —

INTRODUCTION TO THE FIRST EDITION.

THIS little work is designed principally for the citizens of this town. The subject is not presumed to be of sufficient interest to attract the particular attention of strangers. I have, therefore, entered into details and local descriptions which will not be interesting to readers in general, but only to those who are connected with the scene by association or locality.

The work originated in a Lecture delivered before the Lyceum in Attleborough in 1830, which was prepared without the most distant idea of publication. The subject, though an *old* one, being entirely *new* to the hearers, excited much interest. At the earnest request of many of the most respectable citizens of the town, I concluded to prepare it for publication, to be included in a mere pamphlet of about sixty pages. In compliance with what seemed the general wish, proposals were accordingly issued, to ascertain if sufficient encouragement would be given to justify the undertaking. But in the prosecution of my researches new materials were found, and the work multiplied upon my hands, until it has extended to more than double its original size.

When the author attempted to prepare even a brief lecture on the subject and began to make inquiries accordingly, he was told that it was in vain — that no materials existed from which a sketch could be formed, particularly in relation to our early history. The attempt indeed was at first discouraging. The field was new and unexplored. There was no light “to lead my blind way” through the dark labyrinth of the past. Little or nothing was contained in other works to which I could refer for aid. The spot had almost escaped the prying curiosity of the antiquarian. I found, however, after diligent and laborious research, facts enough to make up the present volume.

The materials which are here embodied have been derived mostly from original sources. I have gathered “here a little, and there a little.” Tradition has supplied a part; for some facts I am indebted to the recollections of the aged; others I have industriously gleaned from a mass of voluminous and almost illegible records and other manuscripts. I have left nothing unsearched which might throw light on the early history of the town.

The object of this work is not mere amusement, but the preservation of facts. I have therefore selected not merely what might be interesting at the present time, but what might be valuable for future reference. Hence some may think that it is too minute in the relation of circumstances; but others, knowing the true objects of such a work, will be rather inclined to complain that it is not minute enough. Minuteness and detail are, in fact, the principal merit of local histories. Such works will furnish materials for more general history. This is the design; or at least, one great benefit to be derived from them is the collection and preservation of facts for a more full and perfect history of the country. Many items which have been collected together in these pages, however unimportant now, will be curiosities to future generations. They will become more interesting, as time throws its thickening shadows over the actors and events of the past.

I have seized the present moment and gathered what could be obtained from tradition, and thus arrested what was rapidly passing into the gulf of oblivion. I have been particularly minute in describing the transactions connected with the Revolution. Those who lived in that age — who saw, and acted in, the great scenes which then transpired, and who alone can give us correct and circumstantial accounts of that period, will in a very few years more have passed from the stage of life; and thus interesting and important facts will be irrecoverably lost to us and to posterity, unless now rescued and embodied in a durable form. The present is the only time to obtain minute and circumstantial accounts of the Revolution. Even now, since the commencement of this work, several, from whom I have obtained facts in relation to that period, have descended to the silence of the grave. It is hoped, that every opportunity

will be furnished to correct information from those who were personally engaged in the scenes of the Revolution, or they shall disappear from the stage of life. It is useless to discuss that the merit and expense of compiling the histories and purifying the style itself and improving as it is, have far exceeded my expectations. Indeed, no one could be less than the opposite; one fully conscious of the labor and patience and sacrifices which are requisite in collecting scattered facts and supplying broken pieces in the chain, and the perplexing labor is supposed to be a successful experiment in collecting and arranging materials. I have, however, no objection to meeting an adequate compensation for the time and expense bestowed upon the work, — the true consciousness of having procured from posterity against the name of my country, peace, glory, and reward from posterity many facts in the history of my right to glory, which would otherwise have been forgotten or lost, with the most consistent payment of that a consolation.

Such a work, I am aware, is of no great consequence to any but those who are connected with the cause. But it takes many little things to make up the great merit of history. All these things tend to throw light on the interesting subject of our early history, and in this view every historian, both however minute or unimportant in itself, is valuable and worthy of preservation. And it may be truly said that he has not labored in vain who has subject one new fact to what is already known, or elucidated one dark spot in his country's history.

In the extracts which have been made from ancient records I have selected the original titles and titles which were bestowed in accordance with the customs of former times. Even the most inferior titles then conferred some distinction. In the earliest records it is not uncommon to find "Corporal" and "Sergeant" such as some. Foreign Lieutenants and Captain were sometimes applied to those who served with the army. Even the title of *Major*, which is now without distinction of amount of his subordinate appointment, was once bestowed in honor to which but few could aspire!

I have seemed to be accurate, but some errors have doubtless escaped the closest attention. If any should be observed, it will be esteemed a favor if those who have the means will communicate the correction.

ATLANTIC, January, 1864.

TO search the records of the past,
Recall the scenes of early days,
Was his, whose memory will last
Beyond the poet's lays.
But with the task yet incomplete,
The purpose unfulfilled,
A messenger, that comes for all,
His mortal pulses stilled.

His mantle falling rests on one
Endowed with youth and power
To bring the work her father left
Down to the present hour.
Upon this page of History
With gratitude we look
And bless the art of magic skill
That saves it in a book.

HISTORY
OF
ATTLEBOROUGH.

A SKETCH

OF THE

HISTORY OF ATTLEBOROUGH.

CHAPTER I.

SETTLEMENT OF REHOBOTH. — PURCHASE OF THE TRACT CALLED REHOBOTH NORTH PURCHASE. — PROCEEDINGS OF THE PROPRIETORS. — CAPTAIN THOMAS WILLETT, ETC.

IN 1643 a company was formed at Weymouth, Mass., consisting of Rev. Samuel Newman and a large portion of his congregation, for the purpose of establishing a new settlement in this vicinity. They purchased a large tract of land of the Sachem of Pokanoket, including what is now Rehoboth, Seekonk, Pawtucket, East Providence, and a part of Swansea, then known by the name of Wannamoisett; and in the spring of 1644 removed to a place then called by the Indians Seacunke, and commenced their settlement around the Great Plain. This was the Rehoboth Purchase. It was purchased of Massasoit, and one inducement in the selection of this particular tract by the settlers of Rehoboth may probably have been the fact that it included a large, level plain clear of wood and ready for cultivation. Here the inhabitants continued with many additions to their number as a distinct and independent settlement until June 4, 1645, when they were found to be within the limits and were adopted into the jurisdiction of Plymouth Colony, to whose territory this tract belonged, and were incorporated as a township by the scriptural name of Rehoboth.

Here was then principally a wilderness with no other settlement in the immediate vicinity, the nearest being the then new settlement at Cohannet, Taunton, distant about twelve miles. The Rehoboth plantation prospered and continued to receive accessions from new emigrants and also from the settlements near Plymouth, from Duxbury, Marshfield, and Scituate, some from Boston, Dorchester, Roxbury, Hingham, Dedham, and some more emigrants from Weymouth, the former residence of the original settlers. These people were almost entirely from Massachusetts Colony, who landed at Boston in 1630 and subsequently, and the location of Rehoboth was deemed favorable, as it was situated on the borders of the Narragansett Bay.

The principal men of this settlement were a substantial and intelligent class of people, and seem to have been above the average, possessing in a marked degree the characteristics required in pioneers. Their first minister seems to have been especially qualified for the position he occupied. Most of the first generation of settlers in the New England colonies were learned men, educated in the universities in England, at first ministers of the Established Church, who, from non-conformity, were obliged to flee from religious persecution at home and to seek an asylum in the American wilderness. Many of them were eminently qualified, such, fitted by their varied experience in life to be the advisors, the guides, of the pioneers of their flock in these early settlements. Such was Samuel Newman, who led his people into the rough and hardy soil of Rehoboth, where he remained in the laborious and faithful discharge of his duties as pastor of the first church for a period of twenty years until his death. He was the son of Richard Newman, and was born in Banbury, Oxfordshire, in 1602, of a family "more cultivated and more ancient than most in the realm of England," and was baptized by a congregation of that parish, May 24, 1602. He was educated at Cambridge, England, having entered Trinity College there, March 6, 1619. He preached in several places after leaving the University, and emigrated to this country about 1650. He was a short time at Dorchester, then removed to Weymouth, and finally to Rehoboth. He died July 5, 1663, and the manner of his death was somewhat peculiar, as he had a certain premonition of it, and stated that it would occur. He was apparently in good health, but suddenly expired on the day named. He was buried in the old burying-ground at Seekonk. His dust has there mingled with his mother earth, but no monument marks the spot. A man of so much usefulness and distinction in his day and generation should not be suffered to remain without even the ordinary memorials of the dead—such as mark the last resting-places of the most humble tenants of the grave. We often neglect the living and honor the dead; but we sometimes honor the living and forget the dead.

Mr. Newman was especially remarkable as being the author of a Concordance of the Bible, a voluminous work, a most laborious one to accomplish, and which shows him to have been a very learned man. The first edition was published in London in 1643, about the time of his removal to Rehoboth. While there he revised the work, making many additions and improvements. The second edition was published at the same place in 1650, and a third in 1658. It was a work of great utility, not only in itself, but as laying the foundation for subsequent works of a similar character. It was published about one hundred years earlier than the more famous Cruden's Concordance. In 1662, a short time before Newman's death, an edition of this work somewhat altered and improved was published by the learned scholars of Cambridge University, England, at the University Press, which was afterwards known to the public as the "Cambridge Concordance," thus robbing the

real author of the reputation which belonged to him, though in the preface the editor acknowledges that it is founded on Newman's work, and his plan is adopted.¹

It is related of the author, that while pursuing this work at Rehoboth he was obliged from the scarcity of materials for lighting in that infant settlement to use pine knots for the purpose. It is justly a matter of no little satisfaction to us that the author of such a monument of learning and industry should have completed it while he was an inhabitant of the Old Colony.

As many of the pioneers of Rehoboth or their immediate descendants were the pioneers in establishing our town, we go back together in large measure to original founders. We can claim a common interest in this eminent scholar as one of her pioneers, and we deem this short sketch of his life appropriate to the history of Attleborough.

During the first seventeen years after the settlement of Rehoboth there was remaining a large tract of land belonging to the Indians, lying directly on the north of the town and between its north line and the south Massachusetts Bay line, containing an area sufficient for two large townships. This region was then the domain of the "good Massasoit," the fast friend of the English. Pocanoket, or Pawkunnawket, is the name that was applied to the tribal dominion of Massasoit, whose personal tribe was the Wampanoags. His general authority extended over various other tribes in Plymouth Colony, and his dominion descended through Wamsutta to Pometacom, King Philip. It is believed by historians that the tribe of Massasoit contained a numerous population shortly before the landing of the Pilgrims. In 1612 it was said to have numbered four thousand warriors, but about that time, or a little later, it had been greatly reduced in numbers by the terrible and fatal pestilence which swept away so many of the natives. Baylies says this plague almost depopulated the New England coast. The Pokanokets suffered the most, and on the arrival of the Plymouth settlers in 1620 their warriors numbered only sixty. The territory included in the Rehoboth North Purchase was probably inhabited by the Wampanoags (or Pocassetts).

"Once Pawkunnawket's warriors stood
Thick as the columns of the wood;
On shores and isles unconquered men
Called Massasoit father then."

How long in the ages of the past this fair domain had been in possession of the natives the records of time have never revealed. But their hour had now come: it was destined to pass from their hands to another and higher race. They were doomed to extinction. According to the inevitable law

¹ A copy of this edition came into the possession of the author, and was promised by him to the people of Rehoboth. Since his death, in fulfillment of this promise, it has been presented to them, and is now in the historical collection in Goff Memorial Hall. — EDITOR.

of Providence, if brought in conflict, the inferior must yield to the superior race. After Philip's War, a feeble and spiritless remnant lingered around their former plantations, in a degraded condition, for a few years, and then vanished forever.

"Of all that times, the time of woe,
A terrible war and long night;
The ghastly ghosts of dead Indians
Avail them not to say go down;
And in their spectral vision say,
That time too, too long ago had away."

About 1660 our forefathers began to feel "straitened," and wanted an enlargement, having only an area of about fifty thousand acres, and ten inhabitants to a mile. In 1661, therefore, Captain Thomas Willett, who was a skilled negotiator, and on intimate, friendly terms with the Indians, was employed by certain inhabitants of Rehoboth to make a purchase of a new tract of land in their behalf, having been first authorized and empowered by the court for that purpose. He accordingly purchased of Wamsutta (or Wamsutta) a certain tract of land situated north of the town of Rehoboth, which was called the Rehoboth North Purchase. Wamsutta was the then reigning Sachem of Pokanoket. He was the oldest son of Massasutt, and was originally called Moosumam, then Wamsutta, and finally, after the death of his father, according to Indian custom, his name was changed and he took that of Alexander. He died in the summer of 1662, about a year after the date of this purchase.¹

The manner of acquiring title to land in this colony was by purchase from an Indian chief or sachem. The proprietorship appeared to be not in the title but in the sachem, and individual settlers were not permitted to make purchases on their own account. This was designed for the protection of the Indians against the greed of speculators or private rapacity. When lands were desired for settlement a company was formed of a fixed, specified, certain number of shares, and a committee appointed with the consent of the government to negotiate with the sachem for the purchase of a tract of land, generally of a territory sufficient for a township. When the purchase was made, the deed gave a deed in his own name, which was afterwards confirmed by a deed from the government to the purchasers or proprietors. A meeting was called of the shareholders, who organized by choosing a clerk who was to register the proceedings of the company, a committee of three or more, and one or more surveyors of lands, and from time to time they ordered a dividend or division of their common lands, of so many acres to a share. A proprietor would then or at any time apply to the committee and one of the surveyors, who would proceed to lay out or assign to him a

¹ Wamsutta and Alexander Samual. See *Indian Affairs Magazine*.

certain number of acres on his share by metes and bounds; and he would make a return of the *lay out* to the clerk, who recorded the same on his books. This constituted the shareholder's individual title to his lands. These divisions were ordered from time to time till the whole common and undivided lands were exhausted. In this way the original, private titles to all the lands in the Rehoboth North Purchase were obtained. In ancient Rehoboth the inhabitants voted that "the recording of any man's land in the town Book shall be to him and his heirs sufficient assurance forever."¹ This made the title valid. A stranger or non-proprietor might purchase of a shareholder a whole or any part of a share, or a right to *lay out* and have assigned to him a certain number of acres in any particular division.

This purchase from Wamsutta was bounded west by Pawtucket River, now the Blackstone; north by the Massachusetts Colony, or the Bay Line (so called); east by territory which was afterwards the Taunton North Purchase, now Mansfield, Norton, and Easton; and south by the ancient Rehoboth, now Rehoboth, Seekonk, Pawtucket, and East Providence. This purchase included Attleborough, Cumberland, Rhode Island, and a tract of a mile and a half in width extending east and west, and a part of Wrentham and Foxborough. This mile and a half tract was given to Rehoboth as an enlargement by the agents of the court, who were appointed to convey the North Purchase to the proprietors, and afterwards, in 1710, restored to Attleborough by the Legislature of Massachusetts.

In those early days there was much looseness of expression in the legal proceedings. By some phraseology used the reader would suppose that the North Purchase was a part of the town of Rehoboth. It was never merged in that town, or included within its chartered limits. It was from the beginning intended for an independent township. On this point a misapprehension prevails, and there is some confusion and uncertainty in the first proceedings on the part of Rehoboth concerning the title to the North Purchase, such as was common in those days. The clerk of the town, in making his first records, regarded the purchase as made by the town as a corporation, but such was not in reality the case. It was made by shareholders, owning in different proportions, but generally one share each, and it soon assumed its true shape, by becoming an organization of "Proprietors of the Purchase." While it originated among the people of Rehoboth, and as the territory lay on the north of that town was called Rehoboth North Purchase, the shareholders did not include all the people of that town, but only a portion of them, with besides a number of non-residents, some of them from Wampanoisset (Swansea).

Settlers soon located on the North Purchase, but they were without the safeguard of the law. At first these inhabitants were not sufficient in

¹ Baylies, vol. II, p. 199.

unto appertaining, unto Mr. Thomas Prence, Major Josias Winslow, Capt. Thomas Southworth, and Mr. Constant Southworth, in the behalf of the Colony of New Plymouth. In witness whereof he doth hereunto set his hand and seal.

Signed, sealed, and delivered

Thomas Willett [Seal].

in presence of
Daniel Smith,
Nicholas Peck.

For the better protection of the Indians and to prevent controversies and confusion of titles, the Government of Plymouth prohibited by law any person to purchase of them without the assent and positive confirmation of the government. This was first enacted by Statute in June, 1643, providing that no person should purchase, rent, or hire any lands, herbage, wood, or timber of any of the natives in any place within this jurisdiction under heavy penalty.¹

The following is the Grant or Deed² of the Government:—

Know all men by these presents, that we Thomas Prence, Josias Winslow, Thomas Southworth, and Constant Southworth by order of the General Court of New Plymouth, and in the name and behalf of the said Colony of Plymouth, have and by these presents do bargain, sell, alien, grant and confer, and make over unto the proprietors of the town of Rehoboth, (viz.) unto all that hold there, from a fifty pound estate and upwards, according to their first agreement, all and singular the lands lying and being on the north side of that town of Rehoboth bounded as followeth, (viz.) by a River commonly called Pawtucket river, on the west, and up the said River unto the Massachusetts Line, and on the northerly side by the said Line until it cross the old road towards the Bay, where the marked tree stands and heap of stones, and thence a mile and a half east, and from thence by a direct line to the northeast corner of the present bounds of the town of Rehoboth, and so back again home unto the said Line between the governments; with all the meadows, woods, waters, and all benefits, emoluments, privileges, and immunities, thereunto appertaining and belonging, to have and to hold to them and to their heirs forever: Excepting that we reserve within this tract a farm formerly granted unto Major Josias Winslow, and a farm granted unto Capt. Thomas Willett, and two hundred acres of land unto Mr. James Brown about Snake Hill, and ten acres of meadow thereabouts; and the meadow called Blackstone's Meadow, the west plain and the south neck the quantity of two hundred acres, and the fifty acres granted to Roger Amadown, with four acres of meadow next adjoining, three acres to Nicholas Ide, and half an acre of meadow unto George Robinson: All the residue of the lands above mentioned we do hereby firmly make over unto the above said purchasers and their heirs forever, and do hereby acknowledge ourselves to be fully paid and satisfied for the same, and do exonerate, acquit and discharge them and every of them for and concerning the premises.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals, this tenth of April 1666.

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of

ISAAC HOWLAND,
The mark X of
JOHN PARRIS,
The mark X of
JOHN ROCKETT.

THOMAS PRINCE, [L.S.]
JOSIAS WINSLOW, [L.S.]
THOMAS SOUTHWORTH, [L.S.]
CONSTANT SOUTHWORTH, [L.S.]

This tract was purchased, as the reader perceives, in behalf of the proprietors, by Captain Willett, of Wamsetta, the eldest son of Massasoit, Sachem,

¹ *Plymouth Col. Laws*, p. 74, also, ib. p. 289, sect. 5. ² The original is among the records of the Prop's of R. N. Purchase. Perhaps son of Richard, of Braintree, born December 1, 1641. Joseph Rockett married Mary Willmarth, January 5, 1680. Rehoboth

April 8, 1661. Captain Willett held this title in his own name until April 19, 1666, on which day he conveyed it to certain men of Plymouth, the representatives of the government of that colony; and on the same day it was confirmed or conveyed by them to certain inhabitants of Rehoboth, and others, such as held free estates and upwards. The purchasers, as has been stated, were not limited to the inhabitants of that town, but included residents of Swansea (Wampanoet) and other places, and new purchasers from time to time. They constituted a separate and distinct body or company of purchasers; they chose a proprietor's clerk, surveyors, and committees to divide the lands. They soon held separate meetings, kept separate books and records of their own, containing their proceedings and divisions of lands. Captain Willett himself, who heads the list of proprietors, lived in Swansea. Mr. Myles was of the same place. Jeremiah Ide was of New Norrich, and William Allen of Prudence. Some of the original purchasers sold their shares, and upon the death of any of them his heirs became proprietors. Thus new shareholders were constantly being added to or substituted for the original ones, so that the proprietorship mostly came eventually into the hands of those who settled here. In 1672 a full and correct list of proprietors was made, there being seventy-nine and a half shares and eighty-two proprietors.

Before the signing and sealing of the above-mentioned deed it was also agreed according unto a clause in the Indian deed when these lands were purchased by Captain Willett that some meet proportion of lands about Satickmech, such as the said Captain Willett and the Indian Sachem shall agree upon, should be set out for the use of the Indians.

Note on the back of the same deed:—

This Deed is recorded according to order by me Nathaniel Morton, Secretary to the Court of New Plymouth.

The Deed of Lands enclosed
Folio 27.

The following order relating to this subject was passed by the Court of New Plymouth.

NEW PLYMOUTH, October 2nd, 1665.

Whereas the said, having formerly conveyed Capt. Thomas Willett to purchase of the Indians certain tracts of lands on the North of Rehoboth towards the Bay Line, the which he hath made, and is now of some some considerable sale of money for the same, this Court have assigned the Honorable Governor, the Major Winslow, Capt. Southworth, and Mr. Constant Southworth to meet with Capt. Willett concerning the said purchase, and have empowered the above named Committee to take notice of what hath been purchased by him, and what lands he hath and what considerations have come for the same, and have also empowered them to settle upon and make proportion of the said lands as they appear to be equal upon any good reason, and to communicate the truth of Rehoboth respecting an enlargement of that town, as the Court have promised, and to take such course concerning the remainder as they in judgement of law just due and these lands may be settled by the Court.

Extracted from and compared with the Records of said Court.

For SAMUEL SPRAGUE, Clerk.



1. Nine Men's Misery, Cumberland, R. I. 2. Gravestones of Captain Thomas Willett, in what is now East Providence, R. I. 3. Monument erected to William Blackstone by descendants, stands in the yard of Ann and Hope Mill, Lonsdale, R. I.

CAPTAIN THOMAS WILLETT.

Some notice of Captain Thomas Willett, who stands at the head of our list of proprietors and whose life deserves to be better known to the present generation, will not be deemed inappropriate. His history does not exclusively belong to this town, but as he took so active and important a part in the original purchase and settlement of this and the neighboring towns, a brief sketch of his life seems to be demanded by the interest which our citizens must feel in his character. But little is known of him previous to his emigration to this country. He was a merchant in his native country, and probably in his business travels had become acquainted with the Pilgrims in Leyden, was a sympathizer in their religious views, and had resided with them in Holland for some time prior to their exile to America. Here he had an opportunity to acquire a good knowledge of the manners, customs, and language of the Dutch — a knowledge which was destined to prove very useful in later years in a far distant land. He was one of the last of the Leyden company, and came here probably about 1630, a very young man at the time of his arrival — perhaps twenty-one. One authority states that he came in 1629, being then in his twentieth year; others suppose he was about twenty-four years of age when he arrived at Plymouth, where he at first resided. He was an intelligent and well-educated man and soon became useful and distinguished in the colony. He was admitted freeman of Plymouth Colony, July 1, 1633, and six acres of land were granted him in Plymouth. He resided there quite a number of years and acquired an influence and highly respectable standing among the colonists. He soon took an active and prominent interest in the survey and settlement of other portions of the colony and in the purchase of lands from the aboriginal owners. He took much interest in the Indian race, cultivating acquaintance and friendship with them. They became thoroughly attached to him and had great confidence in him, calling him in some of their deeds “our loving friend Capt. Thomas Willett.”

Soon after his arrival in 1630, though, as already observed, a young man, he was sent by the company of Plymouth, who had established a trading house at Kennebeck, to superintend their business as agent. While he was residing there Governor Winthrop relates of him the following curious anecdote: “At Kinnebeck, the Indians wanting food, and there being store in the Plymouth trading house, they conspired to kill the English there for their provision; and some Indians coming into the house, Mr. Willett, the master of the house, being reading the Bible, his countenance was more solemn than at other times, so as he did not look cheerfully upon them, as he was wont to do; whereupon they went out and told their fellows, that their purpose was discovered. They asked them how it could be. The others told them that they knew it by Mr. Willett’s countenance, and that he had

assured it by a bond that he was ready. Whereupon they gave over their design."¹

In 1661, he became Swansen—probably the immediate—of the famous Miles Standish, the Pilgrim warrior in the command of the military company at Plymouth. March 7, 1647, "The Military Company of New Plymouth, having according to order proposed unto the Court two men for every special vote of that ward, the Court do allow and approve of Capt. Thomas Willett, for Captain, Mr. Thomas Southworth, for Lieutenant, Mr. William Bradford, for Ensign."² He was in 1661 elected an assistant of the Corporation, and was annually continued in that office till 1665, when other duties obliged him to decline, and James Brown, of Swansen, was chosen his successor. At this time he was selected by the Plymouth Court, agreeably to the request of His Majesty's Commissioners, to attend them at New York (which had just been surrendered by the Dutch), for the purpose of assisting them in organizing the new government. It is mentioned by Davis in a note to his edition of *Morton's Memorial* that "Col. Nichols, (one of the Commissioners,) in a letter to Gov. Prince, written from New York, the spring after the reduction of the Dutch settlements, requests that Capt. Willett may have such a dispensation from his official engagements in Plymouth Colony, as to be at liberty to assist in modeling and reducing the affairs in this settlement into good English. He remarks that Mr. Willett was more acquainted with the manners and customs of the Dutch than any gentleman in the country, and that his conversation was very acceptable to them." Captain Willett executed his duties there to the entire satisfaction of all concerned; his services were so highly appreciated and he rendered himself so popular with the people, that after the organization of the government he was chosen the first "English Mayor of the City of New York." He was elected to the same office a second time. "But," as Mr. Baylies, the historian of Plymouth County, has justly remarked, "even this first of city distinctions conferred on that proud metropolis did not impart more real sense to his character than the address and good feeling manifested by him in effecting the peaceable settlement of the humble town of Swansen." The Dutch put so much confidence in his integrity that he was selected by them the mediator to determine the controverted boundary between New York and the New Haven Colony. He was also for a number of years one of the commissioners or delegates of the United Colonies.

Soon after the settlement of Rensselaer, Captain Willett removed to Wampanoisset, a part of what is now the town of Swansen, where he resided during most of the remainder of his life. A grant of a quarter part of that township (Swanswick) had made to him and others. With him was associated Mr. Miles, the first English minister in New England, and they two are justly

¹ *Records of Plymouth*, p. 100.

² *Records of Plymouth*, p. 100.

regarded as the founders of Swansea. The manner in which they conducted the settlement of that plantation was just and honorable and reflects much credit on the character of both. Captain Willett always cultivated a friendly intercourse with the Indians wherever he was, and everywhere gained their confidence and good will. Hence he was generally employed by the colony in the purchase of lands from the native chiefs, and besides being the original purchaser of the Rehoboth North Purchase, he was that also of the Taunton North Purchase, and many other tracts of land in the vicinity. He was on particularly friendly terms with Alexander, and his brother the famous King Philip, his home being near Mount Hope, the dwelling place of the latter.

The following order relating to him was passed by the Plymouth Court:—

March 1665-6. In reference to an order of Court bearing date the third day of October 1665, wherein our Honored Governor Major Winslow, Capt. Southworth, and Mr. Constant Southworth were appointed to be a committee in reference to a certain tract of land purchased by Capt. Willett on the north side of Rehoboth, which said order empowereth the said Committee to dispose and settle a proportion of the said lands on the said Capt. Willett as they shall think meet; and the Court do therefore settle and confirm unto him four or five hundred acres of the said lands, to be laid out for him on the Easterly side or end of the said lands, to him and his heirs forever.

This grant or farm in this town, at High Squisset, was laid out to him and recorded in the "Rehoboth North Purchase Books." It lies on both sides of the Seven Mile River, beginning near Newell's tavern and has always borne the name of "Willett's farm." It was a tract of five hundred acres, and with certain meadows and out lots amounted to about six hundred acres, and was given to him as an acknowledgment of his services to the proprietors. It seems to have passed into the hands of his son, Captain Andrew Willett, who sold it some time after his father's death to John Wilkinson the 1st, of Attleborough. In 1720 it was divided into two parts between Captain Samuel Tyler and Joyce Newell, widow of Jacob Newell. This farm was originally laid out with great regularity—in parallel lines—and its subsequent divisions have been preserved in good shape.

Captain Willett married Mary Brown, daughter of Mr. John Brown the 1st, at Plymouth, 6th July, 1636, by whom he had several children: Thomas; Hester, b. 6th July, 1647; Rebecca, d. 2d April, 1652; James, b. November 24, 1649; Andrew; Samuel; Hezekiah, who died 26th July, 1651; Hezekiah 2d, b. 16th November, 1652; Sarah; Martha, etc. His son James married Eliza, daughter of Lieutenant Peter Hunt, of Rehoboth, 17th April, 1673, and continued to live on the paternal estate. Hezekiah 2d married his cousin Anna Brown, daughter of Mr. John Brown, 2d, of Rehoboth, 7th January, 1675, and was killed soon after by the Indians in Philip's War. John Saffin, who had resided in Scituate and Swansea, married Martha Willett. They lived in Boston—where in 1686 he was Speaker of the Assembly of

Massachusetts, and in Bristol, R. I. Samuel Hooker,¹ of Farmington, Conn., married Mary (Smith) married an Elliot, and it is said another daughter married one of the family of the Rev. John Wilson, of Boston, ("the Holy Wilson of Cotton Mather's sermons"), and Hester or Esther married the Rev. Josiah Flint, of Dorchester.

Captain Willett has numerous descendants residing in various parts of the country, several of whom have become distinguished in history. His grandson, Francis, was a prominent man in Rhode Island; another descendant, his great-grandson, of the family of Samuel was Colonel Marinus Willett, who lived in the State of New York, was a distinguished officer in the Revolutionary War—and he had also been mayor of New York City.²

After a residence of a few years in New York, Captain Willett returned to his seat in Swansea, where, after a life of varied and distinguished usefulness he died the 4th of August, 1674, at the age of sixty-three. The "Old Colony Records" give the date as the 5th of August, but I have chosen to rely on the inscription upon his gravestone. He was buried in an ancient burying-ground, at the head of Bullock's Cove, in what is now Seekonk, where a rough stone is erected to his memory containing a brief and nicely carved inscription which reads as follows:—

HEAD STONE.

1674

Here lyes y^e Bodyof y^e w^{or}^d ThomasWillett w^{ho} was diedAug^r 4th y^e 4th in y^e 62th

year of his age anno

FOOT STONE.

WHO WAS THE

FIRST MAYOR

OF NEW YORK

& TWICE CH.

SUSTAIN Y^e PLACE

¹ *Portrait of Marinus in Esopus and Catskills.*

² Member of the New York House governed by Mr. John Wilkeson, M. W. Wright. Colonel Willett had married Miss Dr. M. Wilkeson, who was one of the founders of the American Tract Society, and Mr. Angell, Mrs. Anne Willett, his first president for her generation first president entered in the Esopus and Catskills. At a time her death in the city of Florence, Italy, being the Deaconess.

His wife Mary died about 1669, and is buried by his side.¹ Thus the first English Mayor of the first commercial metropolis in America lies buried on a lonely and barren heath in the humble town of Seekonk, at a place seldom visited by the footsteps of man — with naught but the rudest monument to mark the spot.

The following extracts are taken from an account of the Willett family, found in the *Providence Journal* of January 24, 1873. One writer says of Captain Willett: —

He was conversant in the fur and Indian trade of the whole coast of Kennebec to Hudson's River, became very opulent, and settled on a plantation in Swansey, now Barrington, where remains his grave, six miles below Providence. Being an intelligent and respectable person, he went as a counsellor on board of beloved Colonel Nicholl's fleet, at the reduction of Manha-does, 1664, and was by him appointed Mayor of the new conquered city. He owned houses in New York and Albany. The Dutch resuming the government, he afterwards returned to his settlement and died in Barrington.

The following "epitaph on my worshipful father-in-law," was written by John Saffin: —

Here lies Grave Willett, whose good name
Did Mount upon the wings of Fame;
Who unto Place did not Intrude,
(A Star of the first Magnitude.)
But 's prudence, piete and zeale,
For God, in Church and Commonweall,
His reall worth, and Generous Spirit,
Which constantly he did Inherit.
His hospitality and love,
And courteous carriage, like a Dove,
Did so Excell, that all might See
He had attain'd to the First Three.
Now he's hence gone to his long home,
And taken from the Ill to come —
Liv'd here Desir'd; lamented Dy'd;
Is with his Saviour, Glorified.

The will of Captain Thomas Willett is a very long document, drawn up with minute particularity. It contains legacies to the "overseers" of the instrument, and to the churches of the neighboring towns. Some old servants are also remembered. He then devises his extensive estates in New Plymouth, Swansey, and Rehoboth to his sons, James, Hezekiah, Andrew, and Samuel, and his Narragansett lands to his grandchildren; but Thomas, son of John and Martha Saffin, is to inherit a double portion. As early as July 4,

¹ Following are the inscriptions on her gravestones: Headstone — "1669. Here lyeth ye body of the virtuous Mary Willett, wife to Thomas Willett, who died January ye 8 about ye ~~last~~ 10 year of her age, anno." Footstone — "Daughter to the worl John Brown, Deceased." Captain Willett's headstone is some six or seven inches thick, about eighteen inches wide, and stands perhaps two and a half feet high, and is in a very good state of preservation, but the little cemetery is still a barren and neglected spot. It is now in what is called East Providence. For these facts, and the above copy of Captain Willett's inscriptions, I am indebted to Mr. Charles H. Wheeler, of this town, who has recently visited this place of historic interest.— EDITOR.

1666, certain lands in present Newbury, afterwards part of the "King's Purchase," but afterwards known as Boston Neck, and situated near the present Narragansett Ferry, had been purchased of three Indians by Willott and others. That small part of the Willott property, reserved by its owner as a wedding portion for his granddaughter, is still held by his descendants, while all the other estates have long since been divided and alienated. A singular provision of the will was that if any one of his sons (the daughters were all married but one) should marry without the consent of a majority of the free exquisites, he would so that not forfeit all claims to his inheritance. The Willott farm (where he resided) was the original seat of the great and good Minuteman, and a large howdah on the farm is still known as "Mian-blum's Rock." On one portion of this farm the celebrated Colonial Whale or Whalley, styled one of King Charles' regicide judges, resided for a time.¹

The following introduction is entered in the first book of the records of the *Rehoboth North Purchase* :—

"Whereas, in the year one thousand six hundred sixty and six, a purchase of lands was made by the inhabitants of Rehoboth and the neighbourhood of Annimosett:—the said lands situate on the North side of the Towne of Rehoboth,—of Mr. Thomas Paine, Esquire, Major Josiah Winslow, Captain Thomas Southworth Agents of the Government of New Plymouth, the bounds of the said lands fully appearing by a Deed of sale made by the *abovesaid* gentlemen, to the purchasers thereof, bearing date the tenth of April 1666, which deed hath been inrolled at the Court of New Plymouth according to order of Court. The bounds of the said lands are as followeth, (viz.) by a river called Pawtucket river, on the West, and up the said river unto the Massachusetts line; and on the Northerly side, by the same line, until it cross the oldt Ronde towards the Bay, where the marked tree stands, and a heape of stones; and thence a mile and halfe East, and from thence by a direct line to the North East corner of the *present* bounds of the towne of Rehoboth, and so back againe to the said line between the Governours.—Excepting there was reserved out of the said tract of land a farm granted before to Major Josiah Winslow, is now granted to Captain Thomas Willott, and two hundred acres of land to Mr. James Browne about Snake-hill, and ten acres of Meadow thereabouts; and the Meadow called Blackstone's Meadow the West plaine;² and the South neck the quantity of two hundred acres; and fifty acres granted to Roger Annidown with four acres of meadow; and

¹ This was a provision of the will made in the latter part of the 17th century, from the limited knowledge then existing. One of the grandsons of the original owner.

² A good note. A provision for some of the early Whalley family, who lived on the lands in the North Purchase, as mentioned by Judge Chandler, p. 41. This family descended to Captain Willott, mentioned in the 17th century, as having been the founder of the town of Newbury. A. W. M.

three acres of Meadow to Nicholas Ide : and half an acre to George Robinson ; also some Meete proportion of lands for the Indians at Simmichiteconett ; for the use of the said Indians. All the rest of the said lands within the said tract as before bounded, to be equally divided to the purchasers thereof according to their said proportions, (there being Seventy Nine whole shares and a half) being joint purchasers ; and the said purchasers have fully discharged and paid the purchase thereof according to their several proportions."

"Mem. That the clause in the *former* page 'to be equally divided to the purchasers thereof' hath reference to the before expressed date (viz.) one thousand Six hundred and Sixty and Six.

"The names of the Purchasers with their Rights to the said Lands before mentioned are those (*no man contradicting*) that are here expressed in the following List."

Capt. Thomas Willett (one share, John Wilkinson's).

Mr. Stephen Paine, Sen., 2 shs. (one that was his own and one that was appointed for John Martin).

Mr. Noah Newman, 1 sh.

Lieut. Peter Hunt, 1 sh.

Mr. James Browne, 1 sh.

Samuel Newman, 1 sh.

John Allen, Sen., 1 sh.

John Woodcock, 1½ sh.

Thomas Estabrooke's ¼ sh. (bought of Roger Amidowne).

Thomas Willmot, 2 shs. (one he bought of Jo. Carpenter and one of his own).

Sampson Mason, 1 sh.

Anthony Perry, 1 sh.

John Butterworth, 1 sh. (this sold to Daniel Jenkes, excepting the meadow).

Philip Walker, 1 sh.

John Ormsby, 1 sh.

Richard Martin, 1 sh.

Stephen Paine, Jun., 1 sh.

Rober Joans, 1 sh.¹

Obadiah Bowen, 1 sh.

John Pecke, 1 sh.

James Redeway, 1 sh.

Samuel Carpenter, 1 sh.

John Titus, 2 sh. (one that he bought of his mother-in-law, Abigail Carpenter, and one that was his own).

Mr. John Myles, 1 sh.

William Carpenter, 1 sh.

Joseph Pecke, 1 sh.

Thomas Cooper, Jun., 1 sh.

Ensign Henery Smith, 1 sh.

John Reade, Sen., 1 sh.

John Reade, Jun., 1 sh.

Nicholas Pecke, 1 sh.

Elizabeth Hannah and Lydia Winchester, 1 sh.

This sold to Dan'l Shepardson.

Daniel Smith, 1 sh.

Jonathan Bliss, 1 sh.

Rice Leonard, 1 sh.

William Saben, 1 sh.

John Perrin, Sen., 1 sh.

George Kendricke, 1 sh.

George Robinson, 1 sh.

John Doggett, 1 sh.

John Fitch, 1 sh.

Richard Bowen, Jun., 1 sh.

Elizabeth Bullucke, 1 sh.

John Miller, Jun., 1 sh.

Robert Fuller, 1 sh.

Robert Wheaton, 1 sh.

Ester Hall, 1 sh.

John Miller, Sen., 1 sh.

Jaret Ingraham, 1 sh.

John Kingsley, 1 sh.

Gilbert Brookes, 1 sh.

Thomas Reade, 1 sh.

Thomas Grant, 1 sh.

Jonathan Fuller, 1 sh.

James Gillson, 1 sh. (bought of Samuel Saben).

Samuel Luther, 1 sh. (This share sold to Mr.

Phillip Squire.)

Nicholas Tanner, 1 sh.

John Allen, Jun., 1 sh.

Preserved Abell, 1 sh.

Francis Stephens, 1 sh.

Nicholas Ide, 1 sh.

Richard Whittaker, 1 sh.

¹ Robert Jones intended, but spelled as above on the record

Thomas Cooper, Junr, 1 day;
 Samuel Cooper, 1 day;
 William Carpenter, 1 day;
 Daniel Peckham, 1 day;
 Benjamin Peckham, 1 day;
 John Allen, 1 day;
 Joseph Fox of New Bedford, with a survey;
 Thomas Cooper, 1 day, (brother of Richard
 Cooper, Senr);
 John Cooper, 1 day;
 Joseph Cooper, 1 day, (brother of the preceding);
 John Cooper, 1 day, (brother of the preceding);
 John, Remondy, 1 day;
 William Allen, of Providence, 1 day, for himself
 and Samuel Allen.

Nathaniel Parker, 1 day;
 Isaac Parker, 1 day;
 Joseph Cooper, 1 day;
 Robert Miller, 1 day;
 Nathaniel Parker, 1 day, 1 day, for the benefit
 of Richard Parker, Senr, and the other
 of Abimeus Whittier;
 Edward Whittier, 1 day;
 The Abimeus Hunt had two shares in the new
 meadow, and agreed upon it at a Meeting of the
 Proprietors, March 10th, 1677, to be divided into
 one hundred and twenty shares for the New England
 Land, to be divided into one
 hundred shares, 1 day, 1 day.

This list of proprietors, as the reader perceives, was made in 1677, by a committee chosen for that purpose.

The first division of lands in the North Purchase was made June 22, 1678. This division was confined exclusively to meadow land. It was made before the lands were purchased, and was evidently intended for the immediate use of the cattle of the inhabitants. It appears by the following extracts from the town records of Rehoboth that the Court had made a grant of the meadows in the North Purchase to the inhabitants of that town, before the rest of the lands were granted, and this division was therefore an authorized one.

February 23, 1657. At a town meeting lawfully warned it was voted, "that all the Meadows lying on the North side of the town, which were given and granted to the Town by the Court, shall be laid out according to person and estate."

"At the same time those men whose names are here subscribed have promised to go to see what meadows they can find on the North side of our Town, that they may notify our town, to their best judgment, what quantity there may be of it, and this they do freely on their own charge. Wm. Carpenter Senior will go 3 days on his own charge, and if he go any more he is to be paid for it. Wm. Sabin, 1 day; Lieut. Hunt, 2 days; Joseph Peck, 1 day; John Peck, 1 day; Henry Smith, 1 day; Wm. Bucklin, 2 days; Robert Fuller, 1 day; John Read, 1 day; Thomas Cooper Junior, 1 day; Francis Stephens, 1 day."

At the same time those men whose names are here subscribed, are accepted of the freedom of the town in taking up their freedom; namely, Joseph Peck, John Peck, Henry Smith, Robert Fuller, John Hunt, Steven Palmer, Jonathan Bliss, Wm. Bucklin, Rice Leonard. Several of these persons afterwards removed to Attleborough.

June 27, 1657. It was voted, "that all the meadow that lies upon the

¹ Many of the proprietors removed to Attleborough, and were to purchase from their parents.

North side of the town, that hath been visited by certain men according to the town's order, shall be lotted out, according to person and estate."

"14 of the 9th month, 1661. Lieut. Hunt, and Wm. Sabin were chosen to confer with Mr. Willett to know what he hath done about the North side of the town in the behalf of the town."

"The 28 of the 5 mo. 1662. It was voted that John Woodcock (afterwards of Attleborough) should have two rods of land to build a small house on for himself and his family to be in on the Lord's day in some convenient place near the meetinghouse, and Goodman Paine and Lieut. Hunt were chosen to see where the most convenient place might be for it."

"1658, June 22d. At a town meeting lawfully warned, Lots were drawn for the meadows that lie on the North side of the town, according to person and estate."

April 18, 1666. It was voted by the town "that the late purchasers of land upon the north side of our town shall bear forty shillings in a rate of 5*£* and so proportionable in all other public charges."

It was also voted that there should be a three-railed fence set up and maintained between the late purchased land on the north side of the town to be set up on all the end of the plain from Goodman Buckland's lands to the Mill river, "and every man that is interested in the said purchased Lands to bear an equal proportion in the aforesaid fence according to their proportion of Lands."

It was also voted "to make choice of a Committee for the settling and stating of the late purchased Lands on the north side of our town, viz: whether such, as at present seem questionable, are true proprietors of the aforesaid lands:—and the Committee chosen were Capt. Willett with the townsmen and those that stand engaged for the payment of the aforesaid purchased Lands." The committee reported April 23, 1666.

It was also voted by the town "that Mr. Goodman Martin shall enjoy a spot of fresh meadow that lies on the north side of the town lying at the end of the Great Plain, during his life and his wife's, and at their decease to return to the town."

At the same time it was agreed between the town and Captain Willett, "that for the forty acres of meadow that he is to have to his farm, on the north side of the town, he is by agreement made with the town to have High Squisset and Low Squisset, and the bounds of the said Squisset's meadows to be according to the sight of the Surveyor's day that they laid out his farm, that is, Henry Smith and William Carpenter: and he is also to have a piece of meadow at the Seven Mile River near unto the going out at the highway, and six acres of meadow at the Ten Mile River, and what there wants of the six acres in quality is to be made up in quantity—the said six acres of meadow on the Ten Mile River lies by the old highway as we go into the Bay."

April 25th, 1666. The Committee that was chosen by the town April 18th, 1666, at a town meeting, for the surveying and setting of the late purchased lands, upon the North side of our town, the aforesaid committee being met together this twenty third of April, we do certify that there shall be seventy six whole shares and equal portions in the aforesaid lands, and six persons that have half shares, which we do putte to sell to the seventy six whole shares, so that the whole number of shares amounts to seventy two shares."

May 10th 1666. At a town meeting lawfully warned, the town concluded to have a meeting upon the last Tuesday in June, "to consider of the meadows on the north side of the town, how they may be disposed of for this present year; it is therefore agreed by this town, that no man shall mow a load or a part of a load of grass, before the same hath been disposed of, hence, upon the penalty of twenty shillings the load or part of a load."

October 16, 1666. At a town meeting it was concluded that the purchased lands on the north side of the town "shall be divided between this and the first of May next ensuing." It was also voted by the town, "that no person shall fall any trees upon the aforesaid lands on the north side of our town before the said lands be divided, upon the penalty of ten shillings for every tree so felled." The same day John Duggett, Joep Woodcock, and John Titus were chosen by the town "to see what timber trees are fallen on the late purchased lands on the north side of our town, and they shall have the forfeiture for their pains, and the trees to those that the land shall fall to."

June 22, 1667. At a town meeting it was voted by the town that the meadows lying on the north side of the town "shall be for this present year, as they were the last year."

April 10, 1668. "The town chose a Committee to go and view the meadows that are in the North Purchase and to acre them out, to divide them into three score and eighteen parts and a half, and to mark and bound out each part and put in such swamps as in their prudence they think meet, to be laid out in the said division — provided they do it equally as they can. The said committee are Anthony Perry, Philip Walker, Thomas Wilnot,¹ Nicholas Lee, to be paid by the above company of purchasers."

May 13, 1668. The town made an agreement with Goodman Allen "that he is to have the twenty acres of Meadow that is laid out by Ensign Smith at Sinecheticonet, and the Meadow called the Parson's Meadow, and all that is within the same for his thirty acres of meadow that he purchased of Meadow Winslow — and also for his full share of meadow on the North Purchase." It was also voted "that the rates upon the North side of the town be lowered, and part taken off, that is to say, whereas the lands upon the North Purchase

paid 40 shillings of 5 pounds in all rates, that now the said lands shall pay 20 shillings in 5 pounds until the town see cause to alter it."

May 26, 1668. It was voted that John Woodcock "shall have the meadow upon the Ten Mile River between Capt. Willett's meadow and his own Meadow, and another piece that the townsmen shall appoint him that were chosen by the town to acre the meadows in the North Purchase, for two shares of meadow on the N. Purchase."

The 26th of May, 1668, lots were drawn for the meadows¹ in the North Purchase.

The first division of general lands was granted by the proprietors at a meeting held February 9, 1668. Lots were drawn for this division March 18, 1668-69. The previous divisions had been confined to meadow land.

"At a town meeting lawfully warned February 9th 1668, it was voted that there should be Fifty acres of upland laid out on the north side of the town to every share, speedily; and the rest to be laid out with as much conveniency as may be." This was the first general division, and the number of proprietors was eighty-two. In 1685 it was eighty-three, and at another division, November 7, 1699, the number had increased to one hundred and thirty-three. It was voted that there should be a committee chosen "to view where there is good land for the laying out of a division of lands on the north purchase," and that the aforesaid fifty acres to a share should be forthwith laid out, and then lots should be drawn by the aforesaid purchasers according to the agreement.

At a town meeting lawfully warned the 18th of March, 1668-69, "it was voted that there should be fifty acres of land laid out to a share on the North purchased lands."

It was also provided that the purchasers should draw lots for their choice; and that each one should choose his lands successively according to his turn, and give notice to the next in turn; and that if any neglected or refused to make choice and lay out his land in his turn, for the space of three days after notice was given him, he should wait until all others had made choice in regular order.

At this meeting a committee of eight were chosen, any two of whom might act, to see that these rights should not be laid out so as to interfere with highways, previous divisions of meadows, or other lotments. This committee were William Sabin, Nicholas Peck, Samuel Newman, James Reddaway, Thomas Willmot, Samuel Peck, Lieutenant Hunt, Joseph Buckland. Nine purchasers entered a protest against the manner of laying out the lands by *choosing*: namely, Captain Willett, Mr. Myles, William Sabin, Mr. Brown, Deacon Cooper, John Miller, Sen., John Peren, Sen., George Kendricke, William Carpenter.

¹ Granted by the Court previous to the purchase.

"The Names of those that drew for a Division of the North Purchase, 1770. March, 1768-8."

John Tice	Isaac Tice	Sam Bond, Junr.
George Goodland	Wm. Fairbank	Mr. Newman
James Otis	James Collins	John Martin
Colman Lynde	Isaac Tice	John Emerson
Nathan Tice	Abiel Tice	George Goodland
George Hall	Isaac Kingsley	John Bond
John Langley	Tim. Connor, Junr.	Thomas Grant
John Allen, Junr.	Mr. Mayes	Mr. Brown
Nathan Tice	Richard Brown, Jr.	Nath. Bond
Isaac Mitchell	Isaac Tice	George Brown
Isaac Whitcomb	Isaac Kingsley	Jonathan Paine
Isaac Duggan	Thomas Alford	Jonathan Goodland
Isaac Connor	John Woodbury	Sam. Bond
Isaac Whitcomb	John Allen, Senr.	Robert Bond
Isaac Bond	Nath. Tice	Nath. Brown, Jr.
Isaac Tice	Capt. Willet	Richard Whitcomb
Isaac Bond, Senr.	James Robinson	Sam. Connor
Isaac Bond	Sam. Newman	Edward Hall
Isaac Anderson	Stephen Paine, Senr.	Nathan Grant
Stephen Paine, Junr.	John Parker	John Sturge
Thomas and Daniel Goodland	Robert Miller	Wm. Bond
Richard Bond	Tim. Wilbur	Wm. Carpenter
Isaac Smith	George Brown	Samuel Mason
Isaac Kingsley	Wm. Carpenter	Isaac Bond
George Tice	Isaac Bond	Ben. Bond
Isaac Bond, Senr.	Isaac Bond	Ben. Smith
	Isaac Stephens	Sam. Brown

Complaints were often made that the taxes in the North Purchase were rated or assessed too high. There is the following record on this subject:—

At a meeting of proprietors of the North Purchase the 26th of August, 1770, it was voted, "that the townsmen should choose three men to discuss and also to end any difference with such persons as are chosen by the complainers of the provisions of the Rates." The time set to meet was "this day seven at the meeting house, and if not ended to attend the next Court at Plymouth to defend and answer such complaints as are made against the rating of these lands."

A mile and a half on the south side of this town was granted to Rehoboth, by order of Court, June, 1768.*

June, 1768. "This Court have ordered that a tract of land containing a mile and a half lying on the North side of the town of Rehoboth is allowed to be the proper right of the said township. And for such lands as are lying

*and land in Plymouth in 1770, recorded in S. P. Records, vol. 2, p. 2. See List App. D, p. 100, col. 4, 11.

*Children of a deceased Whitcomb, deceased.

It was common to acknowledge no title. Hence the North Purchase contained lands all were a part of Rehoboth upon the land town to take the acknowledgment of a title and a half town that territory upon the commonwealth's territory.

betwixt the Bay line and it is to be accounted within the Constablerick of Rehoboth, until the Court shall order it otherwise. And that such farms as lyeth within the said liberties shall be responsible in point of rating at the Colony's disposal." — *Old Col. Rec.*

There is the following vote concerning this tract in Rehoboth Records: —

November 8, 1670. At a town meeting lawfully warned it was voted that the line should be forthwith run between the North Purchase and the mile and a half given to the town for enlargement.

The committee were "Lieut. Hunt and Ensign Smith, Nicholas Peck and Will. Carpenter."

Committees were also chosen to see that no timber on the north side should be "fallen or drawn away." Great difficulty was experienced in preventing the loss of timber on the undivided lands.

December 26, 1670. It was voted that there should be a town meeting "this day fortnight about ten of the clock in the morning," and that there should be a committee chosen "to draw up such propositions as they think will be most expedient for the settling of the differences on the north side of the town concerning those lands, considering that all the purchasers of the land have not yet given them, Mr. Brown engaging to give notice to all the proprietors of those lands that dwell at Swansea: and that these propositions be tendered at the said town meeting, that, if it were the will of God, there might be a unanimous agreement. The committee chosen were Lieut. Hunt, Ensign Smith, Nathaniel Paine, Nicholas Peck and Anthony Perry."

November 23, 1670. A committee was chosen to meet the treasurer of Taunton to settle the bounds between the North Purchase and Taunton North Purchase. Committee were "Ensign Smith, Wm. Sabin, Wm. Carpenter."

At a meeting of the proprietors, May 28, 1672, it was voted "that for the comfortable and peaceable settlement of the lands and meadows on the North side of the town: — whereas there has been great dissatisfaction in respect of the unequal division of meadows: — and, forasmuch as there was a Committee chosen in the year 1688 for the bounding of the meadows betwixt the Tens: — there shall be a new committee added to them, to make diligent search and take a deliberate view of the meadows and swamps within all the several Tens, with power to add to those Tens which needed amendment, and bound them all; and also to redress any grievance which any particular person suffers. This order is not to take place till after six months." It was provided that the said committee should "bound all the Tens before any more upland lots are laid out, if they do it within two months."

At a meeting of purchasers, February 18, 1684, it was voted that there should be a division of fifty acres to a share in the North Purchase; William Carpenter was chosen surveyor to lay it out. Voted that there should be a meeting of the purchasers to draw lots for said division "the last Tuesday

CHAPTER II.

BLACKSTONE.

THE first white inhabitant within the original limits of the town was the celebrated William Blackstone, a man of many peculiarities and a singular history. He was also the first settler and sole progenitor of *Shawmut*, now the site of the great city of Boston. There were two or three individuals at a distance, on Maverick and Thompson's islands in the harbor, apparently having no connection with him.¹ Everything relating to the unique life of this eccentric though amiable man must be interesting not only to the people of this town, but to all who feel an interest in the ancient history of the colonies.

He came to this country from England soon after the Pilgrim Fathers, as early as 1625-26, and settled first at Boston, called by the Indians *Shawmut*, meaning a spring of water. Here he commenced his solitary life, built his house, cultivated his lands, and planted his orchard, where the first apples in Massachusetts were grown. He had undoubtedly occupied the peninsula several years, and alone, prior to the arrival of Governor Winthrop's Company in 1630. They at first located themselves at Charlestown, but finding the water bad, and "liking that plain neck that was then called Blackstone's Neck," they soon removed by invitation to the peninsula, where they found a good spring of water.

Mr. Blackstone had been in England a clergyman of the Established Church, and was a well-educated man: he graduated at Emmanuel College, Cambridge University, receiving his degree A.B. in 1617, and A.M. in 1621. What the special occasion of his leaving his native country and coming here was, is not wholly known. It is thought by some that he had some connection with Sir Ferdinand Gorges² in his enterprise. None have traced him to his birthplace or any home in his native country, for the name is not

¹ One Walford, lived at Charlestown; Maverick, on what is now East Boston, Thompson, on the island still bearing his name, and Blackstone, at Shawmut, are supposed to have held their lands under Gorges' patent, and thought to have been the pioneers of a projected plantation. See a pamphlet entitled "Blackstone, Boston's First Inhabitant," published in Boston, in 1877.

² In 1623 a patent was issued to Robert Gorges, son of Sir Ferdinand Gorges, including ten miles on Massachusetts Bay, thirty inland, and some islands, and it is now said that Blackstone received a right from him, and that he may have come to this country in 1624, with the colonists whom Gorges sent out in that year to establish a plantation at Weymouth. Subsequently Sir Ferdinand Gorges persuaded his son to give up his patent, and in 1629 another was issued to Winthrop, who arrived in 1630, as stated above. See pamphlet above quoted.

in 1628 his share of a levy made to defray the expenses of "the campaign against Morton at Merry Mount" was twelve shillings, a large sum for those days, and though the smallest of the several levies made, was more than a third of that of the whole town of Salem.

With the purchase money for his lands he bought a "stock of cows," which he carried with him when he removed to his new settlement on the Pawtucket River. Instead of contending with his neighbors he fled from their society and persecutions. It was in 1634 that he sold his right and title in the peninsula to the inhabitants of Boston, each one paying him six shillings, and some of them more.

The following document, quoted in Shaw's History of Boston, gives some of the particulars of this purchase:—

The deposition of John Odlyn, aged about 82 years; Robert Walker, aged about 78 years; Francis Hudson, aged about 66 years; and William Lytherland, aged 56 years. These deponents being antient dwellers and inhabitants of the town of Boston, from the time of the first planting thereof, do jointly testify and depose, that in or about the year of our Lord sixteen hundred and thirty four, the then present inhabitants of said town, (of whom the Hon. John Winthrop, Esq. Governor of the Colony, was chiefe), did treat and agree with Mr. William Blackstone for the purchase of his estate and right in any lands lying within the said neck of land, called Boston, and for said purchase agreed that every householder should pay six shillings, which was accordingly collected—none paying less, some considerably more; and the said sum was paid to Mr. Blackstone, to his full content. Reserving unto himself about six acres of land on the point, commonly called Blackstone's Point, on part whereof his then dwelling-house stood. After which purchase, the town laid out a place for a Training Field, which ever since, and now is used for that purpose, and for the feeding of cattle: Walker and Lytherland further testify, that Mr. Blackstone bought a stock of coves with th money he received, and removed near Providence, where he lived till the day of his death. Sworn to the 10th of June, 1684, before S. Bradstreet, Governor, and Samuel Sewall, Assistant.

Mr. Blackstone received £30 for his right to the peninsula as appears by the following record: The "10th day of the 9 mo. 1634." Voted that a rate be made, namely: "a rate for £30 to Mr. Blackstone."

Reckoning March¹ the first month, this assessment was made in November. The purchase of course was made previous to this date, and Blackstone, in all probability, removed early in the subsequent spring. We can hardly conceive the difficulties of such a journey at that time. No highways opened a passage for him, and the Indian paths led in varying directions. No sign-posts pointed a guiding finger for the traveler: he must find his way unaided, and, more than that, guide his wayward cattle and transport his household goods. How this was done we cannot tell, but it was in some way successfully accomplished.

having been made into a "training field," was without doubt Boston's beautiful Common. His orchard was close by, and his house probably stood on the site "bounded by Beacon, Walnut, and Spruce Streets." Beyond the deposition of Odlyn, one of Anne Pollard, the first of Winthrop's colonists to leap ashore, which was taken in 1711, confirms the boundaries of Blackstone's property, as do his deed to Richard Pepys of six acres, and various deeds and wills relating to the same for a hundred years after his departure to Attleborough.

¹The year, according to Old Style, commenced March 25, Pope Gregory's correction of 1582 not being adopted by the English Parliament until 1751, more than a century later than this date.

orchard was just east of the hill. This eminence he called "Study Hill," a name it long retained. The place is about three miles above Pawtucket, in the present town of Lonsdale, where the late Colonel Simon Whipple resided. The Indian name of the place was *Wawepoonseag*, the place of nets or snares, *wawee* meaning a goose. This name is mentioned in the "Plymouth Records" in describing the boundaries of the North Purchase, in 1661: "From Rehoboth, ranging upon Pawtucket River, to a place called by the natives *Wawepoonseag*,¹ where our Blackstone now sojourneth." His title to the lands which he occupied was respected by the Plymouth government. According to the "Old Colony Records," on "March 5th, 1671, Mr. Stephen Paine, Sen. of Rehoboth, and Mr. Nicholas Tanner were appointed by the Court to see Mr. Blackstone's land laid forth according to the grant." After his death the government ordered them recorded to him.

For many years Mr. Blackstone must have lived in complete isolation and seclusion, for his abode was far from human habitations or the haunts of his fellow-men. Stray Indians may have occasionally visited him in their hunting and fishing excursions, but beyond such infrequent visits he was probably companionless. He certainly tested thoroughly the advantages, if such there be, of a solitary life; but at last, possibly because of approaching age, but more probably because he was true to the instincts of our nature and the dictates of the human heart, he decided that "it is not good for man to be alone," and "he sighed for some one to enjoy the solitude with him." What soft persuasions he whispered into the ear of Sarah Stevenson which induced her to forsake the society of relatives and friends in Boston to become the constant companion of the sage of the wilderness, history has not revealed; but ancient records have told us that they were married, July 4, 1659, "by John Endicott, Governor." Blackstone's lonely dwelling was thus enlivened by the presence of woman, and one son was the fruit of the union. The life, if retired and so far from such markets as the towns then afforded, was not of necessity unvaried or frugal. Milk and meat were obtained from the herds, fish from the river, game from the forest, and these, with the fruits and vegetables raised on the fields, afforded abundant food.

Mrs. Blackstone was the widow of John Stevenson, of Boston, who had by her at least three children: Onesimus, born 26th 10th mo. 1643; John, born 7th mo. 1645; (baptized 28th September, 1645); James, born October 1st, 1653. The second son, John Stevenson, lived with his mother after her marriage with Mr. Blackstone, and after their decease continued at the same place during the remainder of his life. Mrs. Blackstone died in June, 1673. The following is found in the Rehoboth Records: "Mrs. Sarah Blackstone,

¹ It is supposed by a writer in the Mass. Hist. Coll. to be properly the name of a brook, now called Abbott's Run, which enters the river not far from the site of Study Hall. It is said by tradition that Mr. Blackstone had a servant whose name was Abbott, to whom he gave the land on this "run" now bearing that name.

the wife of Mr. William Blaxton, was buried about the middle of June 1675. "Many of the greatest records (notwithstanding the decay of the record), but not that of the death of persons."

Mr. Blackstone survived his wife and about two years, and died May 29, 1676, a few weeks before the commencement of the great Indian War, thus having escaped witnessing the horrors of that awful pestilence and the complete destruction which awaited his *fair domain*. "He was always on good terms with the Indians. Mattamuskeet, the nephew of Canonicus king of the Narragansetts, Omissaugan, Massawit king of the Wampanoags, Canonicus, and King Philip were his friends, and through his instrumentality and influence hostilities may have been avoided. He was of the age of fourscore" at his death, and the record on the Rehoboth book of his burial is "Mr. William Blaxton buried the 28th of May, 1675."

The name has been written in several ways, but Blaxton was the form he chose. As written now it has become so fixed upon the records of the country that it would be inexpedient to *change it*, and the modern orthography is the more agreeable of the two. Blackstone had lived in New England about fifty years, ten at Shawmut and forty at this place, and was quite advanced in years. A brief notice of his death is furnished by his friend, Roger Williams. At the date of June 13, 1675, he says: "About a fortnight since your old acquaintance, Mr. Blackstone, departed this life in the fourscore year of his age. Four days before his death he had a great pain in his breast and back and bowels; afterwards, he said he was well, but no pain, and should live, but he grew feebler, and yielded up his breath without a groan." Thus died this patriarch of the wilderness.

Around him was still the wilderness when death snatched him from the sylvan retreat which he loved; but, though the footsteps of men were fast approaching, how would he be astonished to behold the region around it—the place which he once thought secure from the haunt of men, now swarming with an industrious and thriving population. How would he grieve to find the streams, whose placid waters as they flowed by his dwelling he delighted to contemplate, now interrupted by numerous water-wheels, and the silence which then reigned around him now disturbed by the hum of thousands of spindles! To what agreeable purposes is his classic stream now devoted? What a contrast! It is a change which the peace-loving spirit of Blackstone could not endure. Did he seek for solitude to-day, he must drive his herd for many a weary mile, beyond the "Great Lakes," over the "Father of Waters," never resting until he reached the wilds of the Rocky Mountains, or some quiet corner of the great plains of the far West.

Mr. Blackstone left a considerable property, as may be seen from the following Inventory, taken May 28, 1676. "This was taken but two days

after his death," says Bliss, in his History of Rehoboth, "and was a common practice, owing to the condition of the times."

REAL ESTATE NOT PRIZED.

Sixty acres of land, and two shares in meadows in Providence. The west plain, the south neck, and land about the house and orchard, amounting to two hundred acres, and the meadow called Blackstone's Meadow.

The following is the personal property : —

LIBRARY.

3 Bibles, 10s.; 6 English books in folios, £2	£2 10s.
3 Latin books, in folio, 15s.; 3 do., large quarto, £2	2 15s.
15 small quarto, £1 17s. 6d.; 14 small do., 14s.	2 11s. 6d.
30 large octavo, £4; 25 small do., £1 5s.	5 5s.
22 duodecimo	1 13s.
53 small do., of little value	13s.
10 paper books	5s.
	<hr/>
Remainder personal	15 12s. 6d.
	<hr/>
Total personal	£56 3s. 6d.

"This estate (the movables) was destroyed and carried away by the natives," says a marginal note on the Plymouth Colony Records. This library contained one hundred and eighty-four volumes, certainly a large library to be in the possession of a private gentleman of that day in the wilds of America. The historian will always painfully regret the destruction of those "paper books," which were probably manuscripts, and must have contained the meditations of this solitary thinker, and might have revealed the mysteries of his strange residence in the New World. What a treasure was lost by the fire-brand of the savage! How interesting we should find a mere catalogue of those volumes — the associates of his retirement, the joy and solace of his long life! We know his was a mind and spirit which could not brook the tyranny of men; but what other causes than those known, if any, contributed to his removal to this country will probably always be a profound secret. We can hardly imagine what strong influence there was which could have moved him to forsake his home and all his kindred without the hope of meeting them again; what could have induced such a man, with his tastes and pursuits, to leave the halls of learning and the cultivated society of old England, to become a hermit in New England.

He was by no means a misanthrope, but a man of natural benevolence, who took this mode of indulging his love for solitude and securing the unrestrained enjoyment of his own sentiments and tastes. He did not shun man because he hated him, but because he loved solitude more than society. He was fond of study and contemplation, and here he could enjoy both. His independent and original mind and character held nothing in common with the dogmatical and persecuting spirit of the age, and he determined to escape

its presence and influence and avoid the theological controversies of the day. He was not idle, though alone. He cultivated his garden and reared his orchard with his own hands. He is said to have been devoted to his books, and though meditative in his habits, yet cheerful in his disposition. Though for so long a time a hermit, he was certainly not morose or disagreeable, and enjoyed intercourse with his kind if it could be peaceable.

He frequently visited Roger Williams, the father of Rhode Island, being only about six miles away from him, and it is said he was also a visitor at times at Richard Smith's fine old mansion, which is "still at Wickford on the Narragansett shore, which was also a favorite resort of Roger Williams." It is understood by all antiquarians that he preached for Mr. Williams — to his audience and people. They differed on certain theological points, but both being declared "moderationists," they "agreed to disagree," and so harmonized; their relations being of the most intimate and friendly kind. One says of Mr. Blackstone: "Though a non-conformist, and detesting popery, his canonical coat, which he continued to wear here, shows he was still attached to the English Church, and regarded himself as a teacher of its tenets." In Johnson's *Wonder Working Providence*, the writer speaks of him as "retaining no shroud of his former profession but a Canoncall Coat." The Episcopal Church very naturally claimed him as its son; though while here it is to be presumed he was not within its fold, as Episcopallians could hardly have been numerous enough at that time in his vicinity to have formed an exclusive audience, and there seems no reason to doubt his having joined with that of his friend, preaching there and in the neighboring towns. It has been thought by some that he settled in the "Grove" with the special design of either planting or extending the Church of England; but there seems to be no proof to substantiate such an idea, while there is strong evidence that the same motives and experiences which partially, at least, induced him to leave England induced him to emigrate again after reaching these shores.

Among other anecdotes, it is related of Blackstone that he tamed a bull; it is said of orange color, which he used to ride on his journeys to Boston, Providence, and elsewhere to visit friends; but this cannot be considered a proof of eccentricity. In order not to misjudge the character of the early settlers, we must consider the circumstances in which they were placed. Among isolated settlers of that period it was a common practice to train such animals to carry burdens of all kinds — a practice not entirely extinct at the present time. If there were horses in the settlements at that age, they were rare, and would have been of little use or value, for there were no carriage roads, no carriages. It excited no curiosity to see a person riding upon a bull, and many instances of a similar nature are known. A well-known instance is at the time of the wedding of John Alden and Priscilla May-Tow. "On proceeding to the nuptials," it is said, "he covered his bull with a

handsome piece of broadcloth, and rode on his back; but on the return he seated his bride upon the animal, and walked by her side, leading the bull by a rope fixed in his nose ring."

Mr. Blackstone "was also remarkable," says Mr. Baylies,¹ "for his love of children." When he visited Providence, he carried apples from his orchard to give to children — the first they had ever seen,² and the first probably ever raised in what is now Rhode Island. At a centennial celebration once held in Boston under the direction of the Massachusetts Historical Society, a present of apples was sent to their table from Cumberland, said to have grown on the trees which grew from the sprouts of those in Blackstone's orchard. Some of the trees planted by his own hands were living a hundred and forty years after they were set out. In 1646 there was an apple named after him. In *Historical Records*, vol. 2, p. 332: "Aug. 12, 1646, Blackstone's apples gathered"; perhaps propagated from apples which he had originated at Shawmut. Some writer says "he had the first of that kind called yellow sweetings that were ever in the world, perhaps, the richest and sweetest apples of the whole kind." He was also said to be fond of roses, which he grew at least in Shawmut. In 1836 three apple trees were standing in the meadow near the site of Study Hall, and two of them bore apples.

The quiet of Study Hall was unbroken for many years; but after a while its lonely dweller heard the distant footsteps of the nearer coming of the approaching multitude. He suffered some encroachment from pioneer settlers. His situation at the "Wading Place" on the Pawtucket River was a pleasant one, and attracted the cupidity of men. John Allen laid claim to some part of the "West Plaine," which Blackstone himself claimed as his own, and occupied as a part of his territory on which he had settled. Allen had probably laid out and enclosed a part of the occupation of Blackstone, and the pulling up of his fence, etc., was to test the claim of Blackstone to the title. Allen did not appear, probably not recognizing the jurisdiction of the Court.

The following is a record of the complaint from the Old Colony Records, B. 7, p. 155:—

John Allen Sen. of Swansey, complains vs. Mr. William Blackstone, in an action of the case, to the damage of £20, for molesting him in his just rights, by spoyling of his grass, pulling up of his fence, and destroying of his hay, upon his land which he had of the County, lying on the westerly side of the Western Plaine, from the said William Blackstone, which was done in the latter end of November, in the year 1667—The Jury fined for the plf. six pounds damage, and the costs of the suite.

Judgment was granted to the plf. according to the Verdict.

Blackstone, when he settled down at Wawepoonseag, on emigration from

¹ *Memoirs of Plymouth Colony*—which is a work of great interest, embodying a large amount of historical information on the Old Colony.

² *Calender's Discourse*.

Sturtevant, supposed he was within the limits of the Massachusetts Colony, — though on stating the boundaries it fell within the jurisdiction of Plymouth. Since *Chenoweth's* death, his wife, and he complained to the government of Massachusetts that the inhabitants of Plymouth Colony were interfering with his rights, and petitioned for protection against intruders. The difficulty, whatever it was, was soon adjusted, for we hear of no further complaint or interference, and the Plymouth Colony treated him with the utmost courtesy and regard to his rights. They recognized his title to those lands he had occupied, and divided them all among his heirs.

Blackstone had occupied more than thirty years before the Rehoboth settlers purchased the Indian title to the Attleborough Gore in which he lived, and this was about ten years previous to the settlement. It is reasonable to suppose that he satisfied the Indians for his claim to his premises, as that region was a frequent resort of the natives for fishing and hunting, and was on the Indian path to the crossing of the Pawtucket or wading place of the river. They appeared to be on friendly terms with him.

Just how soon settlers began to approach his seat and intrude upon his solitude is not positively known, but after the establishment of *Sauwaken* the inhabitants of that place occasionally passed this way to Providence, crossing the river near Blackstone's house. At a meeting held December, 1659, it was voted "to have a convenient way four rods wide to be made by Edward Smith, to be for the town's use, or any that shall have occasion to pass from town to Providence, or to Mr. Blackstone's." The old Mendon road also passed here, as at this place was the then only passable crossing of the river. Previous to his death lands were laid out adjoining his estate, as the names of several appear on the records. John Fitch and John Fitch, Jr., had lands near and the former's grave is mentioned with other names, including the "Parson's Meadow."

The history of the stern realities of the old colonial times has now and again a spling of romance. It was long believed that Blackstone had an only daughter who was borne away from the abodes of society, — educated by her father alone, — who had grown up in communion with nature and was graced with the simplicity of nature's charms, a child of the forest and the field, a flower of the wilderness, and it was supposed she married John Stevenson. This statement is erroneously made in the Massachusetts Historical Collection. This was a too tempting subject for the novelist. In a fictitious work in two volumes published many years ago and called "Humors of Rhode," a daughter of Blackstone was one of the principal characters. It seems almost sacrilege to lay radiant hands on such a picture. But in this matter of fact would "the gay frost-work of fancy" must often be dissolved by the light of truth. She had no existence except in imagination. In the old records John Stevenson is called the son-in-law of Blackstone instead of stepson, and that is the only foundation for the supposition regarding his daughter.

Mr. Blackstone left one son, John Blackstone, who, it is supposed, "settled finally somewhere near New Haven." Of him history says little or nothing, but by diligent research I have ascertained a few particulars. He was a minor when his father died, and had guardians appointed by the court. On Old Colony Records for June 1, 1675, is the following: "Lieut. Hunt, Ensign Smith and Mr. Daniel Smith are appointed and authorized by the Court to take some present care of the estate of Mr. William Blackstone deceased, and of his son now left by him; and to see that the next Court he do propose a man to the Court to be his guardian: which in case he do neglect, the Court will then see cause to make choice of one for him." October 27, 1675, "Mr. Nathaniel Paine and Mr. Daniel Smith are appointed and approved by the Court, to be guardians unto John Blackstone, the son of Mr. William Blackstone deceased." *Same records.*

He lived on his inheritance till 1692, when he sold his lands to David Whipple.

DEED¹

To all to whom this deed of sale shall come, John Blaxton of Rehoboth in the Co. of Bristol, formerly in the Colony of New Plymouth — but now of Mass. in New England, Shoemaker, sendeth Greeting, for a valuable — of this County in hand, and paid to him by David Whipple, husbandman, inhabitant of the town of Providence in the Narragansett Bay in New England, sells &c. his house and lands, (that is to say) his mansion house and — on the east side of the River, called Pawtucket River, and lying and being within the precincts of Rehoboth aforesaid, 150 a. and is situated on the Plaine c. d the West Plaine, b. d to the northward the land of Isaac Allen, to the southward the land of John Stephenson, to the w. d Pawtucket Rr. to the E. d part of it to the land of John Stephenson, and part of it to the highway, and part of it the Undivided land, with 20 a. allowed for a highway, &c. &c. the latter b. d Southward by a small run of water and 2 a. on the westirly side of the Country highway next the house.

Dated Sept. 10, 1692

Ack'd Oct. 26, 1692 John Blaxton (s)

Witnessed by Tho. Oliver, } Before John Easton Gov.

Anthony Sprague } By Wm. Carpenter Town Clerk.

Rec'd Dec. 7, 1692.

Soon after this sale John Blackstone removed to Providence, and for a while contented himself with the humble occupation of a shoemaker. There it is probable he married his wife Katherine, as there is no record of his marriage in this town. He continued to reside there until 1718 when he returned to Attleborough, and, with his wife, was legally warned out of town. For what cause does not appear, but may be conjectured. He had probably squandered his property, for tradition says he inherited but a small share of his father's prudence, and this was a precautionary measure on the part of the town against future liability for support — a customary proceeding in those days. In Bliss' History of Rehoboth one John Blackstone appears as a non-resident proprietor of that town in 1689. How this property was

¹ The original deeds, with John Blackstone's signature, are still in existence. They were in the possession of Mr. John Whipple, of Cumberland, R. I., but are now in possession of the R. I. Hist. Soc.

disposed of, they not appear, but doubtless it was wasted in the same manner as the rest of his inheritance. He is presumed to be the person mentioned in the records as an owner of that name has been known in this part of the country.

It was generally supposed by historians that the family was extinct, and that the blood of Blackstone "runs not in the veins of a single human being." Recent research, however, has led to the belief that the son removed to Braintree, Conn., and settled on a piece of land not far from New Haven, where several families of that name have lived for many years. As John Blackstone disappeared from Atholborough, it is probable that he removed and settled there. It has been said there was a family in that county of that name, who lived in seclusion for many years—an additional proof of the probable truth of the supposition as to the family. A John Blackstone, supposed to be the grandson of William, died, and was buried there January 3, 1783.

This supposition of the author is pretty thoroughly substantiated. There are a number of Blackstone's descendants living in Connecticut, and in the State of New York, some of whom have been prominent men. One of Braintree has been a member of both branches of his State Legislature, and his son has been mayor of Norwich, Conn., and is a leading man in that city. The John Blackstone who died January 3, 1783, was "aged 80 years, eleven months, and 15 days." He could not, as the figures show, have been the son of William Blackstone, and must therefore have been grandson. The grandson of this John thus writes of him: "When he came to Braintree, he was entirely destitute of property of any kind; and tradition says, that he left his father's home in England in consequence of difficulty with his parents about property, and that his father and mother were very partial to a brother-in-law of his." This tradition, though doubtless attached to the wrong person, yet proves quite clearly the fact that the Braintree Blackstones are direct descendants of William. As we have seen, the first John squandered his property, and seems to have been a rather worthless fellow. His step-father, Stevenson, was, on the contrary, thrifty and industrious, and devoted to his parents. Very probably there was trouble in the family on a "family" on his part over this fact, as one cause of the son's leaving home. The son of such a man as he proved to be would naturally be destitute of money until he had made it for himself, and the fact that the John of Braintree was poor is but another proof that he was really the grandson of our first settler. Tradition cannot always be relied upon for exactness, therefore it is not strange that facts relating to father and grandfather had all been taken upon the grandson. The latter, however, seems to have inherited the thrift of his grandfather, for he became a successful man.

Soon after arriving at Braintree he went to sea, following that occupation for a number of years. He became master and owner of a vessel, and

carried on a trade with the West Indies, and finally owned several vessels which he lost during the French War. He subsequently became a farmer at Branford, and the proprietor of a large landed estate which has been handed down from father to son for four or five generations.¹ It is scarcely possible that two distinct families of the same name could have settled in the same town at about the same date, both possessing such similar traditions, and doubt as to the identity of the Branford Blackstones can now scarcely obtain.

John Stevenson, as has been stated, came with his mother when she married Mr. Blackstone. He was then about fourteen years old, and he lived with them till their death. He came into possession of a part of his step-father's ("father-in-law's") estate, as appears by the following order of Plymouth Court, passed June 10, 1675, about two weeks after Blackstone's decease:—

Whereas the Court is informed that one whose name is John Stevenson, son-in-law to Mr. William Blackstone, late deceased, was very helpful to his father and mother in their lifetime, without whom they could not have subsisted as to a good help and instrument thereof, and he is now left in a low and mean condition, and never was in any measure recompensed for his good service aforesaid, and if, (as it is said at least) his father-in-law engaged to his mother at his marriage with her, that he should be considered with a competency of land out of the said Blackstone's land then lived on, which hath never yet been performed; and forasmuch as the personal estate of the said William Blackstone is so small and inconsiderable, that he the said Stephenson cannot be relieved out of it; this Court, therefore, in consideration of the premises, do order and dispose fifty acres of land unto the said John Stevenson, out of the lands of the said William Blackstone, and five acres of meadow to be laid out unto him by Ensign Henry Smith, and Mr. Daniel Smith and Mr. Nathaniel Paine, according as they shall think meet, so as it may be most commodious to him or as little prejudiced to the Estate of Mr. William Blackstone as may be. By order of the Court for the jurisdiction of New Plymouth. — *Old Col. Rec.*

The bounds of this grant are recorded in the Records of the North Purchase, Book 1, p. 47. Extracts are made for the gratification of those who may wish to know the situation of his lands:—

Imp. Fifty acres of upland lying upon Pawtucket River, most of it upon the South Neck, being part of that land that was left for Mr. William Blackstone and granted by the Court to John Stevenson: bounded to the eastward the land of John Fitch and the Common; westerly, Pawtucket River, and Southerly; to the northward, the land of John Blackstone; it being 106 rods long.

The five-acre lot of meadow mentioned in the grant is also recorded as laid out by the commissioners:—

1st. Two acres of meadow adjoining to the said lands lying in two pieces: one piece within the former tract of land, and the other by the river side upon the Southernmost end of it.

2d. Three acres of fresh meadow lying at the northeast corner of the meadow commonly known by the name of Blackstone's Great Meadow,² from a white oak tree marked, and so

¹ See a pamphlet called "The Blackstone Family," etc., published in Norwich, Conn., in 1857, by a descendant, Lorenzo Blackstone, formerly mayor of that city.

² Often called in the records "The Parson's Meadow."

through the middle of the meadow to the River the River bounding it to the eastward, westward the meadow of John Blackstone's meadow the highway southward the highway.

There is another tract which he probably purchased:—

Fifty acres of swamp, formerly low, bounded east the land of Isaac Noy, Tracy and His Mother, north the land of Sam. Carpenter, front a highway from north south (between John Blackstone's land and this lot) and a little piece of common land south ending near John Blackstone's parcel to the highway.

There is to be taken out of this lot a highway 2 rods wide next to Sam. Carpenter's land, to meet with the highway at the east end of the said Carpenter's lot.

Twenty five acres of land, allowed to John Stevenson by the King's jury, for and for highway, situate out of his land, lying on the southern side of Alexander's River etc.

Another record of land commences thus:—

There was two acres of land that I took up relating to my own land at the southern end of it when I had in exchange with my brother John Blackstone, etc.

To gratify the curious, the boundaries of John Blackstone's lands are added, by which the precise location of his father's estate may be ascertained:—

Item. A hundred and fifty acres of upland, swamp, and meadow ground, more or less, containing the West River, commonly so called, and more recently bounded to the northward the land of Isaac Aving, to the southward the land of John Stevenson, to the westward Pawtucket River, to the eastward the land of John Stevenson, the highway, and the undivided land; there running a country highway through it to Pawtucket river, being four rods wide.

Likewise a parcel of those meadows commonly known by the name of Blackstone's Meadow, lying right across bounded to the eastward the meadow of John Stevenson, etc.

Likewise twenty acres (allowed to John Blackstone) granted to him by the King's jury, for a right taken through his farm to Pawtucket River, running 26 rods N. W. and 34 rods S. W. and by S. bounded round by the northward land; this tract lying near the new road to Dedham.

Likewise two acres of land be it more or less, which he had upon exchange with his brother John Stevenson, lying adjacent to his father's lot, bounded to the Highway eastward, and Meadow Farm southward, and southward to a small part of water; this tract lies on the westerly side of the country Highway next the House, and in consequence of it John Stevenson had two acres of what John Blackstone was to have allowed by the King's Jury for the highway through his land to Providence, and John Stevenson had this two acres at the southward end of his first fifty acre lot. — Records of N. H. Province, Book 1, page 156.

Stevenson acquired a taste for solitary life by living with Blackstone, and resided here (it is believed alone) till his death. There is no evidence of his ever having been married. His time was devoted to the cultivation of his lands and the pleasures of hunting. He died September 19, 1699. His brother, James Stevenson, of Springfield, was appointed his administrator, who returned an inventory October 11, 1699, from which it appears that his whole estate was valued at 167 lbs. 24 s. His house, lands, and meadows 150. His gun, cutlary, and cartouch box 10. 18. 0. s. etc.

¹ *Item.* From record in said county R. N. P. I took out one or two different items. He sold his whole estate to Dedham, February 15, 1699. See *E. N. P. Records*, etc. "John Blackstone was a freeman of the town of Dedham in the county of Middlesex in the Province of New Hampshire." — *Records of N. H. Province*, Book 1, page 156.

This is all the account which I can find of the first settler within the bounds of the North Purchase. But his name will be preserved in perpetual remembrance, for it is inseparably attached to that noble river which flows past the site of his ancient and solitary dwelling. His name is also transferred to works of art and has been assumed by towns and banks, factories, and the streets of our cities. He has become a prominent historic character in the colonization of New England, and a striking figure on the canvas of its history, with just enough mystery about his life to attract and interest the reader.

The valley of the Blackstone has become celebrated as a manufacturing district, and contributes by the advantages of its water power to the wealth and industry of New England. Hardly could Blackstone—the lover of undisturbed solitude—have dreamed when he forsook the peninsula of Boston and built his lonely dwelling on the banks of this placid stream, that his peaceful retreat would be so soon the scene of industry and the abode of a numerous population, and its silence broken by the busy works of art! Were his spirit permitted to revisit the scene of his former enjoyments, he would be obliged to penetrate a new wilderness, to form a new garden, and plant a new orchard and to seek in a more distant region a spot congenial to his taste.

Everything in relation to Blackstone is interesting to the public: I have, therefore, been minute in this description. It could never have occurred to him who, to avoid the notice of men, sought the shades of solitude, that future ages would take so deep an interest in his history, that he would be an object of minute research to the antiquarian, and that every circumstance connected with his life which could be rescued from the hand of oblivion would be sought out with so much avidity.

The place which he chose for his residence was a truly beautiful and romantic spot, such as a recluse and a lover of nature would select. The place where his house stood was a small hill the surface of which would make an acre or more: on the east was a gradual ascent, but on the west it rose abruptly from the river to the height of sixty or seventy feet: there the Blackstone wound gracefully at its base, forming a slight curve at a short distance south of the hill. The margin of the river was formerly three rods at least west from the hill, but the river has since then enlarged its channel at this place, and it finally washed the very base of the hill, as if attracted to the spot by a grateful remembrance of him who first sought its banks and loved its stream and whose honored name it now bears.

The summit of the hill commanded a fine view of the "valley of the Blackstone," to the distance of more than a mile on the south. On the east was a delightful and fertile valley consisting of a few acres which opened to the south on the borders of the meadow, and was bounded on the east and northeast by a gentle eminence, on the top of which ran the "Mendon road,"

sculpted mentioned in the ancient land records. This valley was cultivated by the Indians of Blackstone; here was his orchard, where the author has seen the stumps of apple trees, cut down within his remembrance, which were said to have grown first the sprouts of the first trees planted by the Indians. His well, too, was long pointed out at the southern border of this valley and long after it was filled up with moss and weeds the pure water still trickled up from its fountains. His grave was also designated, though with less certainty, in the records, about two rods east from the foot of the hill and north of the well. The "flat stone which it is said marked his grave," finally became invisible, either from removal or from being buried under the surface.

One Alexander,⁶ who was drowned in the river, was buried, it is said, by the side of Mr. Blackstone. Is it not probable that his wife was also buried at the same place?

The spot on which he lived once again returned to its original state of nature. Sixty years ago a heavy growth of Italian trees was cut from this hill and a few years later its surface was thickly covered with young and thrifty wood. Oaks of a hundred years had grown on the garden of Blackstone.

Some few years since an interesting paper⁷ on Blackstone was read in Boston, and the results of recent investigation, as then shown, have thrown considerable new light upon the possible parentage and birthplace of our first inhabitant, and the conjectures seem both reasonable and probable. This paragraph, and others from which facts have been given, never met the eyes of the author of this work, and those of the editor only, as it were, by chance in a foreign land thousands of miles distant from the scenes of Blackstone's homes in the Old Bay State. This accounts for the somewhat irregular appearance of these facts in this chapter, which was previously nearly completed by the author himself, and for the apparent discrepancies that arose with some of his statements.

It was formerly conjectured that there might be relationship between our Blackstone and the celebrated law commentator Sir William Blackstone; but the descendants of both have so far been unable to find any connecting link. According to Mr. Amory, until within recent years "the only promising clue to the parentage and birthplace of our first inhabitant (Boston) is a power, in 1755, of Sarah Blackstone (Suffolk Downs), to collect money advanced, in which she is described as of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and which mentions the name of Stevenson, that of the first husband of Blackstone's wife." Later investigators have opened other clues to a possible solution of this question, and whether true or not they are possessed of much interest.

⁶ Supposed to be the Thomas Alexander mentioned in Savage's *Genealogical Dictionary*, as one of Nathaniel's sons, and why, is unknown.

⁷ Which Blackstone read before the Boston Society, September 3, 1880, by Thomas G. Phillips, *American Genealogist*, 1880. He gave the names of the possible fathers of Amey.

Mr. Amory, on good authority, makes our William Blackstone "a near kinsman of John Blakiston, the friend of Cromwell, and one of the regicides who died just before the Restoration. Some of the regicides' descendants settled in Maryland, and a branch is believed to be there now." Mr. Amory further says: "It seems reasonable to assume that all of the name descend from the well-known stem in the palatinate of Durham, the earliest of whom mentioned — Hugh — was proprietor of Blakiston, about six miles from the episcopal city, as early as 1341." "Few families of private gentry," says Surtees in his *History of Durham*, "have spread more widely or flourished fairer than Blackstone; but all its branches have perished, like the original stock. One family alone remains which can trace its blood, without hereditary possessions" — an uncertain kinship being claimed by a few others in the south of England.

The house of Blakiston was one of great wealth and honors, and, according to the history above referred to, reached the height of its prosperity during the middle of the sixteenth century, under one John — probably the one mentioned elsewhere as of the time of Queen Elizabeth. He had fifteen children, for all of whom he was able to make liberal provision. His eldest son was Sir William, born in 1553, and married to Alice Claxton in 1581. They had nine children, and all of the six sons were living in 1624. William was the name of the fifth son, and he, it is supposed, is the same who subsequently became our first settler. Through this Sir William and the son who inherited the title, "the last sweepings of the great Blackiston estates" seem to have been conveyed away, both father and son being somewhat wild and reckless in character and life. Alice Claxton, however, brought to her husband a fine estate, and upon it, in "the house at Wynyard" they seem to have lived most of the time after their marriage, and here, probably, their children were born. This estate is described as being very beautiful, and the house as "one of the most convenient and handsome in the district."

To again quote Mr. Amory: "Knights and beneficed clergymen abounded in the family and if, as suggested, our William was the son of Alice Claxton, his declining, in the impoverished condition of the family, after having obtained a collegiate education, to conform to the ecclesiastical requisitions and be beneficed himself, may explain the tradition in the Connecticut line that their first American ancestor left home from some misunderstanding with his parents."

The name of Blackstone has been variously spelled: Blakiston, Blakeston, and Blackstone being the most common; but he himself adopted Blaxton, as found both by his signatures on receiving his degrees at Emmanuel College — called the Puritan College because many of our eminent divines graduated there — and also upon his deed to David Whipple. This mode of spelling makes the name identical with that of his supposed mother, Claxton, with the exception of the initial letter, and certainly forges another link in the chain of evidence relating to his parentage.

His taste and skill in horticulture, woodcraft, and all accomplishments of a similar nature, tend, as is said, to confirm the conjecture that he was brought up on a large manorial estate, and the chase and field sports in which as an English country gentleman's son he must undoubtedly have participated "prepared his constitution to cope with the exposures and privations of forest-life, and gave him the knowledge and experience required to obtain his food and to take pleasure in its pursuit."

There were many fine old manor houses in the Blackston family. That of Blackston proper, standing in an attractive situation, was taken down during the last century; but the most celebrated of all was Gilsde, which remained in the name until the death of the last baron, Sir Francis Blackston, in 1715. It was between Newcastle-on-Tyne and Ravensworth Castle, on the Derwent, and historians speak of the beautiful and magnificent scenery of the place, "rendered more beautiful from the bleak country which surrounds it. The park is four miles in circumference, and the drive to the "stately banquetting house, seated on a noble elevation," is described as winding "through the bosom of a thick forest, sometimes on the brink of a deep ravine, and at intervals descending on the easy inclination of the hill, but still embowered with venerable oaks." The gardens, the pasturage, the cultivated lands and the manor-house itself are all in keeping with the magnificence of the great park, and together form an estate and a home such as only a family of wealth, cultivation, and distinction would possess and occupy. This place, there are many reasons to believe, belonged to near kinsmen of our Blackstone, and probably he was here a frequent and welcome visitor.

Such, probably was the home, such the friends he left. The character he ever sustained proves him to have belonged, we think, without question, to a family of education and great culture, and these recent developments only add to the interest and the mystery still surrounding the question of the real underlying cause of his self-imposed exile. Powerful indeed must have been the influence and urgent indeed the conscientious necessity which compelled him to leave some of the fairest of earth's scenes and intercourse with cultured friends for the deep solitudes of the American wilderness.

More than thirty years ago, on the one hundred and eightieth anniversary of his death, an effort was made to arouse public interest in the raising of funds to erect a suitable monument to the memory of Mr. Blackstone. A few weeks later, on July 4, 1855, the anniversary of his marriage, quite a number of people gathered at his grave, the spot being then "designated by two small boulders of semi-crystallized quartz rock." An association was formed called the "Blackstone Monument Association"; officers were elected and a constitution adopted. Any persons, without regard to "age, sex, sect, or color," by presenting their names and subscribing ten cents, were thereby made members of the association. Appropriate exercises were held, an oration was delivered by a Mr. S. C. Newman—a lineal descendant of the

first minister of Rehoboth — and this was followed by the singing of an ode, and impromptu speeches.

Considerable enthusiasm was manifested, and nearly the entire assembly responded to the call for signatures and dimes. An aged man very aptly suggested that the orator be the first to record his name, and his dime was seized by a reverend gentleman present, who held it aloft exclaiming, — “In this little coin behold in glistening embryo the future monument — a granite volume with illustrations, which shall be read by distant coming generations of men with respect and admiration of their forefathers who met here this day to perpetuate the character and memory of Blackstone.”

The monument of this charming vision was but a shadowy mirage, — the reflection not of a distant reality, but of a passing illusion, — and the grave of the sage of Study Hill was still neglected and its site almost unknown for many years. We who live in the rush and hurry of this nineteenth century seem to think only of the future, and we almost forget the past; but we should stop long enough now and again to think on the men who gave us the blessings of our land of freedom and prosperity, and, keeping green within our hearts the principles they established, we should burn to perpetuate their memories by rescuing their humble resting-places from oblivion ere it be forever too late.

At last, however, a portion of the vision becomes real, but in place of the quiet, beautiful surroundings the imagination prophetically portrayed, the picture is framed by the noisy, homely environments of a bustling town. The peaceful valley is there no longer, the river flows no more through those fertile pastures. Study Hill has been entirely taken away, and in its place stands a large cotton mill.

While this work of demolition was going on, the bones of Mr. Blackstone were disinterred in the presence of Mr. Lorenzo Blackstone, of Norwich, Conn., and President Gammell, of the Rhode Island Historical Society. These were placed in an appropriate box, and again buried under the building, in which there will be a monument to his name.

How strange is what we term the “irony of fate”! The would-be recluse, disturbed in life, is disturbed also in death. Intruders coveted his pleasant domains while he occupied them, and to-day the demon of manufacture seizes upon them, even removing the soil in which his body was placed, denying him his own grave. Instead of the waving of branches above his head and the gentle sighing of soft winds, is the tread of hurrying feet and the noise of shouting multitudes. The “sculptured marble” rears itself, not amid the giant trees of the forest, close by his peacefully flowing river, but near the giant engine, by whose mighty power the hum of whirring spindles sounds unceasingly. The spirit of the gentle sage could scarcely reconcile itself to such a change, and must have passed saddened away from its accustomed haunts forever.

But this portion has its brighter side, for the former possessor of these lands is not forgotten. Much honor is due to the gentlemen of the Lonsdale Company, who, having probably no interest beyond their own present private one in this spot, so filled to the historian with associations of the past, have yet generously given place to the lettered stone, which, over its very site, shall mark the lone grave and perpetuate the name and memory of William Blackstone.

The grave suggested place was here carried out with some modifications. When the grave was discovered "fragments of a well built basement were such as were found in some steps, and corners of bases, some found," and "the stone of the grave were some granite rubble." It was a "sloping grave," "an indication of an other being visible, and it would seem that Blackstone's grave (as) would be well observed." That the grave found was that of Blackstone there are no reasonable doubts, since some long tradition has always pointed to that locality as the burial place. "The monument standing is very low and is from the grave and is due with it. The grave itself is located by the Lonsdale Co's Act and Hope Mill. The monument was erected by some of the descendants of Mr. Blackstone, and the inscription was written by a member of the Lonsdale Co." It is of granite some ten or twelve feet high — the base five or six feet square and the shaft four or more inches tapering slightly. It is within the enclosed grounds of the mill, surrounded by the same grade of a beautiful lawn, the only street in it. Upon the southern or front side beneath a corner of the stone, is the following inscription: — "THE GRAVE OF THE REVEREND WILLIAM BLACKSTONE, TOWNSEN OF THE TOWN OF BOSSON AND THE FIRST WHITE SETTLER IN BOSSON TOWNSHIP." on the east side: "A STUDENT OF EMMAUEL COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE. HE DIED HOLY ORDERS IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND, IN WHOSE COMMUNION HE LIVED AND DIED." on the west side: "COMING FROM BOSSON TO THIS SPOT IN 1670, HE DIED MAY 26, 1717, AGED 47 YEARS, AND WAS HERE BURIED." on the north side: "ERECTED BY THE LINEAL DESCENDANTS OF WILLIAM BLACKSTONE, A.D. 1880."

CHAPTER III.

INCORPORATION. — PROCEEDINGS OF THE TOWN. — FIRST SETTLEMENTS, ETC.

THIRTY-THREE years after the purchase of territory — as described — from Wamsutta, by Captain Willett, and twenty-eight years after its transfer by him to the Colony of New Plymouth and their conveyance of the same to the proprietors, the number of settlers within its limits had so largely increased as to render it proper and desirable that steps should be taken to carry out the original intention, which was the formation of an independent township.

The following petition to the Council and Representatives of the Province of Massachusetts Bay was therefore presented by the inhabitants of the North Purchase: —

To his Excellency, Sir Wm. Phipps Knight, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of their Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, with the Honorable Council and Representatives thereof now assembled in General Court at Boston, Oct. 17, 1694.

The Petn. of the Subscribers in behalf of themselves and the rest of the proprietors of the lands herein mentioned and expressed.

Humbly sheweth,

That whereas our ancestors and some of ourselves have formerly purchased a certain tract of land commonly known by the Name of the North Purchase, containing in length about ten miles from Pawtucket River to Taunton bounds, and about eight miles from the Massachusetts line between the two late Colonies, to Rehoboth bounds, being in our apprehension land sufficient for a township:¹ and we being now already above thirty families on the place besides other proprietors that at present live elsewhere, Doe humbly pray this Honble. Assembly to make us a township endued with such privileges as other towns are: for these reasons following, viz:

First and principally for the honor of God, and our chiefest good, in that our distance is far to go on the Lord's days — some of us ten or eleven miles to Rehoboth to the public worship of God, which in the winter season is very inconvenient for us to go, and especially for our children — and also the great burthen we sustain in going so far to traine — attend Town Meetings, and to work in their highways, and our own in the mean time neglected.

2ly. In that if we were a township we should quickly (we hope) procure an able Orthodox Minister to teach us, and also a schoolmaster to instruct our children, which would incite more able and desirable inhabitants to come and settle among us, we having lands and other commodities for their encouragement.

3ly. In that we being as Frontiers in danger of the enemy between Rehoboth and other places, should if we were a township be in a better posture of defence when we are *compleated* with officers amongst ourselves.

4thly. We might further add the benefit might redound to their Majesty's service, there being great store of ship timber, and Cooper's stuff wh. might with more facility be conveyed to the water side, were our habitations settled nearer.

¹ We fully agree with the petition that the tract of land then comprising the large towns of Attleborough and Cumberland was reasonably sufficient for a township.

All which is hereby offered to Your Honors, and Honors for acceptance by

Your Honor SIGNED

John Wadsworth

Daniel Stoughton

John Caldwell for

and in the name and

behalf of the rest of the

Proprietors of the said lands.

Oct. 17, 1694

That the above

Patent be granted

provided it be not

prejudicial any former

grant. The same to

be Attorned unto

the proper. Voted to be

Printed by the Act.

Passed in the affirmative by the house of Representatives

Notatam Quodam

Speaker.

Oct. 16th 1694

H. of R. Past and sent up.

The following is the Act of Incorporation, Dated Oct. 16, 1694.

AN ACT for granting a township within the County of Bristol to be called Atholborough.

Whereas there is a certain tract of land commonly known by the name of North Purchase, lying within the County of Bristol, containing in length about ten miles from Pawtucket River to the town of Taunton, and extending about eight miles in breadth from the line between the two Colonies of Massachusetts and Plymouth, to the bounds of the town of Rehoboth, being a convenient tract for a township, and more than thirty families already settled thereunto; For the better encouragement and settlement of said Purchase.

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That henceforth the said tract of land as above described, and bounded by the townships of Taunton and Rehoboth, (no ways to intrench upon either of their rights) be and shall be a township, and called by the name of Atholborough, and shall have and enjoy all such immunities, privileges, and powers, as generally, other townships within this Province have and do enjoy.

Provided, That it be not in prejudice of any former grant.

Provided also, That the Inhabitants of the said place do continue under the power and direction of the Selectmen, Assessors, and Constables of Rehoboth (whereunto they were formerly annexed) as well referred to any assessments and reports thereof, as all other things proper to the duty of Selectmen, Assessors and Constables respectively, until they are separated with such others among themselves, according to the directions in the law in that case made and provided.

The derivation of the name given to this new township is "Atholburgh," meaning at the borough, fort, or castle. "Atholburgh." It was named after Atholborough, Norfolk County, England, which was formerly a city and market town, and a celebrated place in English history. That place was called "The Borough," from its being the principal place in the vicinity of Bungay Castle, the seat of the Mortimers — Earls of March. On Bungay River — sometimes pronounced Bungay, accent on the second syllable — was doubtless named after the castle of the Earls of March.²

¹ The name North Purchase.

² See *Place Incorparation*, "Bungay," vol. II. The name was the surname formed by the addition of "burgh."

Thomas Daggett and John Sutton and his wife and four children were from that town. Sutton came to Hingham, Mass., and thence to Rehoboth with his family, as early as the 4th mo. 1644, and it is believed that our town was named by them.

The boundaries described in the preceding act included the present towns of Attleborough and Cumberland,¹ R. I., embracing a very extensive tract of land. It was inhabited in some localities by a few Indians. There was a plantation of them in the North Purchase six or eight miles north of Mr. Blackstone's at Sinnechitaconet, but it soon dwindled away. The number of white inhabitants at this time could not much exceed a hundred and eighty. They were mostly settled in the southerly and westerly parts of the town. These families were scattered over a considerable space; many had been here from an early period. Of the early settlements more will be said hereafter.

The country was then mostly covered with forests, interspersed, however, with a good supply of natural meadow, which was considered the most valuable kind of land.

The inhabitants increased rapidly, and soon penetrated into various parts of the town.

EARLY PROCEEDINGS OF THE TOWN AFTER ITS INCORPORATION.

A few extracts from the early records of the town, illustrating the character of the times, will be interesting to the present generation.

The first town meeting on record appears to have been held May 11, 1696, two years after the incorporation. There must, however, have been a previous meeting, and a choice of officers — of which no record is preserved. At this meeting the town chose Mr. John Woodcock and Mr. John Rogers,² late of Bristol, as agents "to manage our concerns in matters relating to that part of our township commonly called the Mile and Half, according to our petition and other copies which are in the hands of Mr. Henry Derens Clerk to the House of Representatives, and did further appoint and empower Mr. John Woodcock to agree with and empower said Mr. Rogers and take care to help him to such papers as may most concern our business, for the promoting of matters relating to our township."

At the same meeting three assessors were chosen for the ensuing year: namely, Israil Woodcock, Thomas Tingley, and Samuel Titus.

The next town meeting was held November 23d, 1696, at which the town authorized the selectmen to make a rate for paying the town's debts, which amounted to £5, 15s 1d. At the same time several individuals engaged to pay certain sums "by way of free gift towards the building of a Meeting House," and desired their names and sums might be entered accordingly.

¹ See *Bradford for Bristol*. [Attleborough before the division.]

² See *Order of Royal Coms.*, p. 156.

	1697		1697
Mr. John Woodcock	1. 00	Thomas Wainwright	5. 10
John Lane	1. 00	George Lamson	1. 00
Isaac Woodcock	1. 00	Debit Foreman	1. 00

March 22, 1696-97. The town "taking into consideration who use to vote by law allowed to vote in town meetings, and finding so few allowed to vote," ordered that "all the inhabitants and town Dwellers" should have a right to vote in said meetings. At this time town officers were chosen for the year ensuing: namely, "Mr. John Woodcock, Anthony Sprague, Daniel Jenks, Jonathan Fisher, Thomas Tingley, Selectmen; Anthony Sprague, town Clerk; Isaac Woodcock, Constable; Nicholas Ide and Joseph Cowell, Surveyors; Henry Sweet, Tithingman; Thomas Tingley and Samuel Fittes, Fence-viewers; John Woodcock, Anthony Sprague and Daniel Jenks, Assessors; John Lane, Grand Jurymen; Benjamin Force for the Jury of Trials in April next at the Quarter Sessions at Bristol."

November 24, 1696, the town debt is recorded, the amount being £5. s.18. d.1.

May 19, 1697. At a town meeting for the choice of an "Assembly man for the Great and General Court," the inhabitants voted not to send a man "by reason the town was excused by law."

July 12, 1697. The town voted to have a Preamble made according to law upon a piece of undivided land between the lands of Daniel Shepperson and James Jillson near the "Bay Road."

The inhabitants were often disturbed by Indians and others hunting and strutting about the town and insulting the inhabitants. In relation to these disturbances the town passed the following orders:—

Jan'y 31st, 1697 or 8. At a town meeting legally warned for the making of "some town orders or by-laws touching persons disorderly coming into town who have no rights or lands in the same but are strangers and foreigners," the town passed the orders as follows:—

The inhabitants did not till have two town orders, as by laws for said town which are as follows:— "It is ordered, ordered and agreed upon by the freemen of Aylsham, and said inhabitants that no person that has a residence shall be received as an inhabitant without the consent of a majority of said town or without some authority to the town by law granted that said town freemen are given contrary to this order. It is ordered the Selectmen are appointed to make laws and sufficient remedy in the behalf of the town of new by as well as to see as their duty is, to better the streets of Aylsham, as to give order and warning to such strangers or others to leave the town according as the law directs and that none or no person shall enter Aylsham or within given of the same. So observing this they to see that the town is not charged with unnecessary charges."

The second order as it now was touching those freemen and strangers that have been companions of the street and house and have been some of the inhabitants of the

These laws are now entirely repealed and their laws officers are:— Assessors:— From 1840, John, Samuel, Yvon, James & others. A Tithingman:— John Perry and Judge of the Supreme Court of the State.

town: for the prevention of which the inhabitants being desired to give their advice did meet and agree and by Joint consent have voted and passed this act, that no forrin or Indian stranger should be allowed to come into town being armed under hunting pretense nor suffered in the same to abide in Drinkings and Shootings [shootings] at unseasonable times of night and threatenings to severall persons which is contrary to the laws of this province and disturbing to severall of this town: neither is any person or persons whatsoever within this town allowed to take in or harbour Indian or Indians armed other than such as hath been allowed or shall be allowed without the unanimous consent of the inhabitants at any time hereafter, but every person or persons transgressing aganist this order or by law shall pay a fine of five shillings each day for the use of the poor of this town for every such offense.

March 4th, 1699 or 1700, in town meeting Daniel Shepperson gave a piece of ground to set a pound on "at a place commonly known and called Red Rock Hill by the rhoad-side by a pine tree, which pound is to be built 30 feet square and finished by the last of June 1700." At the same time the house of Daniel Shepperson was appointed "to be the certain known place for Town meetings," he giving "free liberty and comfort" to the people, until some other place should be provided.

March 13, 1700. Voted not to send a representative, for the same reason that was assigned at the first meeting.

March 25, 1701. In town meeting voted and appointed a "Training place to be on the South side of David Freeman's house, between the two ways, viz. the Bay road and the road that leadeth to Nicholas Ide's house." At the same time the town "did by major vote appoint the last Tuesday in March at 9 o'clock A.M. to be their Election Day annually for choosing town officers according to law, without any further warning, so to continue till further order." This year no Assembly man was sent. †

Feb. 9th, 1702-3. It was voted that Ensign Nicholas Ide and Anthony Sprague with the selectmen be a committee to agree in behalf of our town concerning the lines and bounds between Attleborough, Dorchester, and Wrentham. It was also voted that the selectmen should make a town rate for the payment of town debts, and that a quarter part of said rate be levied upon the polls, and the rest upon the estates; and that said rate "shall be paid in Indian corn at 2s. 6d. per bushel, or rye at 3s. 6d. per bushel, or oats at 1s. 6d. per bushel, or in money."

March 14th, 1703. Voted not to send a representative by reason they were so few in number and excused by law.

EARLY SETTLEMENTS.

The first settlement within the bounds of the present (1886) town of Attleborough was in the neighborhood of the Baptist meetinghouse, where Hatch's old tavern still stands. It was commenced by Mr. John Woodcock, his sons and their families, soon after the first division in 1669. Here he built a public house on the "Bay Road," and fortified it as a garrison, and laid out lands to the amount of about three hundred acres, which afterwards

made an excellent farm. At this time, and subsequently he took up in several parts of the town about six hundred acres, part on his own shares, and the rest on rights which he purchased of Roger Anddown, James Rehoboth, Andrew Willett, etc. A part of this six hundred acres was on Ringby River, where Bishop's shop once stood, and this he conveyed to his son Jonathan, with the "saw-mill thereon standing."

Woodcock's house was occupied for a garrison. It was licensed in 1670, according to the following record:—

"July 20th, 1670, John Woodcock is allowed by the Court to keep an Ordinary at the ten mile tree (so called) which is in the way from Rehoboth to the Bay, and likewise ordered to keep good order, that no unruliness or riotousness be permitted there." — *Old Col. Rec.*

His name first appears in the Rehoboth records "the 28th 4th mo. 1647," when he bought the lands of Ed. Patterson. "The town gave to John Woodcock the lot before granted to Edward Paterson." He also had a grant of land in May, 1662, for a small house near the church for "the Lord's use," and he was living in Rehoboth as early as July 28, 1662 — probably for some time previous — though the precise date of his settling there cannot be ascertained. He came there from Roxbury, where he owned real estate, but where he had previously lived is not known. He was admitted a freeman of that town May 14, 1675.

Woodcock was a man of some consideration in those days, his name frequently appearing in town offices and on committees. June 2, 1691, he was chosen "Deputy to the General Court" from Rehoboth, and at several other times. He was shrewd, hardy, fearless and adventurous — a character best suited to the times in which he lived, and the circumstances in which he was placed.

He held Indian rights in very low estimation. On one occasion he took the liberty of ~~pinning himself~~ *seizing himself* a debt due to him from a neighboring Indian, without the consent of the debtor or the intervention of judge, jury, or sheriff, — for which achievement he received the following sentence from the Court: — *an example of the rigid justice of the Puritans:—*

"1654 John Woodcock of Rehoboth, for going into an Indian house and ~~taking away~~ *seizing* an Indian child and some goods in lieu of a debt the Indian owed him, was sentenced to set in the stocks at Rehoboth an hour on a fasting day, and to pay a fine of forty shillings." — *Old Col. Rec., Court Orders, Book 2.*

Woodcock had two wives: Sarah, who died in May, 1676 ("Sarah¹ wife of John Woodcock, buried 10th May 1676"), and a second one, Joanna, who survived him. He had a large family of children, some, if not all, of whose names I have ascertained, though no record of them is preserved on the

books. John, who married Sarah Smith, Feb. 26th, 1673; Israil; Nathaniel, who was killed by the Indians; Jonathan; Thomas; and at least three daughters: one married to Thomas Esterbrook, one, Mary, 28th Nov. 1676, to Samuel Guild,¹ and another, Deborah, to Benj'n Onion,² of Dedham or Wrentham, May 24th, 1683. There were also others of this name, daughters of one William Woodcock,³ viz. Alice, married 9th of April 1689, to Baruck Bucklin; Anne, married to Thomas Fuller; Sarah, married to Alexander Bolcom; and Miriam⁴ (or sometimes Mary), who was single July 3, 1718. She was said to have married Jonathan Freeman July 1, 1689. (Doubtless he had died.)

John Woodcock, Sen., died October 20, 1701, having arrived at a very advanced age in spite of the many attempts which had been made by the Indians to destroy him. It is said that after his death the scars of seven bullet holes were counted on his body. He was an inveterate and implacable enemy to the Indians — the cause of which will hereafter appear in the notice of some events in Philip's war. In encounters with them, on several occasions, he ran imminent risks of his life. He was foremost in all enterprises the object of which was the destruction of the Indians. He was a very useful man as a pioneer in the dangers and hardships of a new settlement, being cunning in contrivance and bold and active in execution.

Woodcock's Garrison was a well-known place of rendezvous in the great Indian war, and was probably for some years the only house, excepting its immediate neighbors, on the "Bay Road," between Rehoboth and Dedham, though this was then the main road from Rhode Island, Bristol, and Rehoboth to Boston. The Bay road extended first from Rehoboth through what is now "the city," to West Attleborough, north to Woodcock's, thence over Ten Mile hill to Jacob Shepardson's in what is now Foxborough, thence through Dedham and Roxbury to Boston.

This "Garrison" was one in a chain of fortifications extending from Boston to Rhode Island. There was one in Boston, one in Dedham at Ames' corner, Woodcock's in this place, one at Rehoboth, situated in the centre of the "Great Plain," on the borders of which the first settlements were principally located, another at Newport on the Island, and perhaps others in the intermediate spaces. It was a famous place on this road — a convenient public house for travelers as well as a well-known station in Philip's war. It witnessed many a military force on its march to the defence of the colonists, and such often halted and encamped there on their route overnight, and sometimes longer while waiting for additional forces. Companies were sometimes ordered to rendezvous there to wait the arrival of other troops who were to accompany them, and then the solitary places of

¹ See *Reh. Rec.* ² Ibid. ³ His name appears on *Proper's Rec.*, vol. 2, p. 25. ⁴ See 2d B., R. N. P. *Rec.*, p. 25.

the wilderness were evidenced by the tread of armed men and the sounds of martial music.

After the Indians had commenced the war by open hostilities, having killed several persons in the settlements near Mr. Hope, "The government of Massachusetts," says Mr. Baylies, "promptly resolved to send assistance to Plymouth," and on the 20th of June a company of infantry under command of Captain Heathman and a company of horse commanded by Captain Prentice marched for Mr. Hope, and notwithstanding certain signs of ill omen which they fancied they saw in the heavens, which had great influence over the peasant mind in that superstitious age, "they continued their march, and reached the house of one Woodcock, (now in Attleborough) distant about 30 miles from Boston, before they halted. It was then morning, and they resolved to wait there the arrival of Capt. Mosely with his company of volunteers." Mr. Baylies says that "Mosely was a man of an enterprizing spirit, and an excellent soldier. He had been a buccaneer in the West Indies, and had resided at Jamaica. The sounds of war revived his enthusiasm for deeds of enterprise and danger."

In the course of the day he arrived at the rendezvous at Woodcock's, with a company of one hundred and ten men, volunteers, amongst whom were ten or twelve privateersmen with dogs. This must have been a stirring scene in the lonely station at Woodcock's. On the second day they reached Swansey.

On the Narragansett Expedition which was appointed for the next December, the three colonies of Plymouth, Connecticut, and Massachusetts united in furnishing military forces to be under the command of Joshua Winslow, of Plymouth, as general.

Here again Woodcock's was a place of rendezvous for the Massachusetts portion of the army. Her force consisted of six companies under the command of Captains Mosely, Gardiner, Davenport, Oliver, Johnson, and Major Appleton, who commanded this portion of the force, and who, on the "9th Dec. 1676 marched with them from Dedham to Woodcock's, the well-known place of rendezvous, 30 miles from Boston, and there encamped for the night." His companies numbered four hundred and sixty-five foot, and one company of horse under command of Captain Prentice, so that the whole number must have been over five hundred. This was a large army for the infant colony of Massachusetts forty-six years only after the settlement at Boston. They marched over the "Old Bay Road." Here they rested, and then marched on to Seekonk, where they met the army of Plymouth County, under General Winslow, and where the two forces were united and marched on their way to the great Narragansett fight. These same forces must have rendezvoused at Woodcock's on their return.

While armies in their marches halted there and great men of the colonies in their travels stopped there, this house is often mentioned by historians.

The celebrated Judge Sewall relates in his "Diary" that on his return from Rehoboth he dined at Woodcock's with fellow travelers on boiled venison, which was probably just such a dinner as they chose in those days, and would not be unacceptable at the present time.

Madame Knight in her famous journey from Boston to New York lodged there overnight, and speaks of her fare. This was considered a perilous journey in olden times, and required eight days to accomplish.

Madame Knight traveled on horseback with a servant, business of importance requiring her presence in New York. A sketch of this adventurous journey would afford a better knowledge of the condition of the country and its inhabitants than any formal description.¹

This "Oulde Bay Road" was the first main road laid out in this part of the country, and all travel would necessarily pass by this "Ordinary" in those early days, which might be called the dawn of the New England life and civilization. It is a delight to go back in imagination and view the landscape that surrounded the traveler, and the novel scenes of early colonial life. Mile after mile of almost trackless woods filled with bears, deer, and the other denizens of the forest, with here and there a gleaming lake or sparkling river glinting in the sunlight; the plodding wayfarer on foot with his heavy staff; the rider on horseback clad in the quaint costume of the time; and anon, a little opening in the wilderness with a single log house or a small cluster of rude buildings, where rest and refreshment could be obtained for man and beast. As one traveler dismounts, or another wearily shifts his heavy burden to the bench by the open door, we can see the dwellers of the hamlet slowly gathering one by one to hear the news from the outside world, a faint echo of whose events just reaches these secluded places; or the women collecting about the pedlar to hear the latest fashions of the towns described, and to barter for some of the contents of the pack by his side.

Woodcock had a large family, with a number of laborers and assistants; there must have been fully fourteen in the entire family. He had a smith on his place, barns, a garrison house of large size, sons' houses, etc., so that his place made quite an opening in the forest and furnished social relief to the lonely and weary journeyers. There was on such a route more travel than one would at first suppose, for emigrants were from time to time going from town to town and settlement to settlement, seeking eligible situations or locations, and messengers on business matters or the municipal and military affairs of the colonies must have frequently passed to and fro.

This stand, so long owned and occupied by Colonel Hatch, and still called by his name, is the oldest in the county of Bristol — a public house having

¹ Many farewells were said, and many prayers publicly offered for her safe return from such an untried and awful journey, over hill and dale, through field and flood. Such a tale brings a smile of incredulity to the face of the present lightning age, when this journey can be so easily made in seven hours, gliding over iron rails in a palace on wheels.

been kept on the spot, without intermission, from July 5, 1670, to about 1840 — during a period of one hundred and seventy years. It is situated on the Boston and Providence turnpike, now often termed "the old turnpike road." I have seen, at considerable pains to ascertain, the names of the several owners in succession, and the times at which they purchased, some brief notices of which may be interesting to the reader.

It was established by John Woodcock, as already related, in 1670, the land having been laid out and cleared by him for the purpose. He occupied it about twenty-three years.

Feb. 17, 1693-94, John Woodcock, Sen., of Rehoboth (with Joanna, his wife), for £400 money in hand received, conveys to John Devotion,³ of "Muddy River, formerly of Boston," a tract of land containing two hundred and ten acres, being "at a place commonly called ten mile river, by a highway called Wrentham lane," etc., "with the mansion or dwelling house, barn, and all other out-housing and buildings (the Smith's shop only excepted standing on the river) ;"⁴ also about thirty acres lying on the northwest side of the country road formerly given to his son, John Woodcock, bounded by Ten Mile River, etc., with his son's dwelling house and barn on the same. "John Devotion took quiet possession of the same April 9th 1694, in presence of Nathaniel Brentnall, William Chaplin."⁵ In this conveyance to Devotion is the following curious item: "Also, all the said John Woodcock, his right to, and privilege in, a house and pasture at Wrentham for accommodation of his family and horses on Sabbath days and other public times, as occasion may be." As we have seen, he formerly had a house at Rehoboth for a similar purpose. From this and other records it appears that Woodcock and his family were very attentive to public worship.

Woodcock laid out the ancient burying-ground near his house. In the above-mentioned conveyance is the following reservation: "Except a small parcel of at least six rods square of the contents thereof, for a burying place, in which my wife and several of my children and neighbors are interred, with liberty for my children and neighbors to come upon and make use thereof forever as occasion may be."

John Devotion occupied the premises more than seventeen years. He left no descendants here, and after selling his estate removed to Waterstield, and afterwards to Suffield, Conn., where a brother, Ebenezer Devotion,⁶ was settled. His wife's name was Hannah, probably Taylor.

July 19, 1711, John Devotion, for £400 money paid, conveys the said

³ Signed and witnessed before three justices of the peace.

⁴ Henry Devotion, son of a graduate of Harvard College and brother of one John Devotion, was once a commissioner, serving in Suffield in 1716.

⁵ A group of men transcribed in the original here.

⁶ Ebenezer Devotion, son of a graduate of Harvard College. He taught school in Massachusetts, and went to Rehoboth, Conn., in 1766, with intention to take the next summer there (1767) for a church, which never was done.

farm containing two hundred acres, more or less, to John Daggett, of Chilmark, in Dukes County, Martha's Vineyard (the first of that name who settled in this town?), with twenty-five acres on "Nine Mile Run" (except two acres, the barn and orchard on it later — in 1833 — in possession of Penticost Blackinton). "Also, one whole share in the undivided lands in Attleborough."

April 16, 1722, John Daggett, for £550, sells the same to Alexander Maxcy, "being his homestead, containing one hundred and seventy acres in two parts on the Ten Mile River, &c. at a place called Mount Hope Hill."¹ The said Maxcy died in about a year after this purchase. At the division of his estate, in 1730, the establishment passed into the hands of his oldest son, Josiah Maxcy. After his death, in 1772, if not before, it came into the possession of his son, Levi Maxcy, who occupied it till about 1780, when he sold it to Colonel Israil Hatch.

Mr. Hatch was born in this town in 1754, and while he was a boy was "put out to work," at Deacon Stearns' who lived in what is now Plainville. On coming of age he commenced life for himself as a driver on a mail stage over the old post road between Boston and Providence. Later he owned a stage for himself, and carried passengers over the same road. He was engaged for a short time in the war of the Revolution, was in Sullivan's expedition to Rhode Island, in Captain Alex. Foster's Company, in Colonel Thomas Carpenter's Regiment. About 1780, as before seen, he purchased the old garrison house of Levi Maxcy, and continued keeping a public house there until his death, though he was also at different times proprietor of several hotels in Boston; one on State Street — Exchange Hotel — from which many daily stages started out; one where the Adams House now is, and another on Tremont Street, or perhaps Washington Street, where it is said he kept a hotel called the "White Horse." The following stanza on its bulletin board proclaimed the advantages of this hostelry to travelers:—

From Attleboro' sirs, I came,
Where once I did you entertain,
And now shall here, as there before,
Attend you at my open door,
Obey all orders with dispatch,
I'm sirs,

Your servant,

Israel Hatch.

During his sojourn in Boston, on June 8th, 1789, he was appointed captain in the first regiment, in the first brigade and first division of the militia of the Commonwealth. September 26, 1789, he was appointed major in the same regiment. He received these appointments from the governor, as may be seen by the original certificates now in the possession of a descendant.

¹ So called to this day.

which contains the bold signature of "His Excellency John Hancock, Esq. Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts." The certificate of his taking the oath is signed "Peter Green, Lt. Col. Comdr." He resigned April 26, 1790.

Though he resided in Boston for a number of years, he continued to keep the tavern in the old garrison house, and about 1800 he returned to Attleborough to live.

He was one of the chief promoters of the Boston and Providence Turnpike, was one of the contractors and himself built quite a portion of it. March 24, 1801, a patent was issued to him for "a new and useful improvement in the mode of making and discharging chain and cleaver shot." This shot was applicable to "ships, batteries, and all modes of warfare." This patent, still in existence, is on real parchment, and bears the signature of Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States, and that of Levi Lincoln, Attorney General and acting Secretary of State.

During the war of 1812 Colonel Hatch took great interest in the harbor defenses. February 21, 1811, he was appointed Justice of the Peace, and the commission was "for seven years or during good behavior," signed by "Elbridge Gerry, Governor." He was the first postmaster appointed in the town and he received the first appointment in 1789. His second appointment as "Deputy Post Master" was issued February 21, 1805, by "Gd. Granger, Post Master General."

Colonel Hatch had in various ways, both as innkeeper and public man, intercourse with many of the great men of his time. Among the valuable papers he left is a letter, relating to some military affairs, from John Quincy Adams, and another regarding his patent frunked to James Madison.

He married Lois Holmes of the same family as that known still in the Holmes neighborhood. They had six children: Israel, Sally, Lucy, Fanny, George, and Joseph. Lucy married John Stephen Fuller, a native of this town, who kept the "Half Way House" on the turnpike, in Walpole, called "Polley's." It was a celebrated and popular tavern in the days of stage coaches from Boston to Providence, and everybody was anxious to dine there on the passage. Fuller was the landlord who created its reputation, which lasted till stage travel had ended.

Most of this family were remarkable for their longevity. Fanny, who became Mrs. Washington Penrose, lived to be ninety-three. Israel died December 18, 1875, aged eighty-four years, seven months, and twelve days; and his wife died ten days later, aged eighty-five years, ten months, and fifteen days. Sally died October 11, 1894, aged seventy-five; George in 1872, aged eighty; Joseph, who was a prominent physician in North Attleborough, died September 15, 1850, aged fifty-nine years, eleven months, the only one of the family who did not reach great age. Five of the six children survived



1. "Old Cooper House." 2. "Aunt Cynthia Hatch House"; addition to Woodcock's Garrison, built between 1730-40. 3. "Old Blackinton House." 4. "Old Pierce House." 5. "Old Wabott House," Watery Hill, burned in 1892; over 200 years old. 6. Residence of Capron Wilmarth, built about 1819. 7. "Josiah Draper House," built by Josiah Maxey over 150 years ago. 8. Hatch House, built in 1806.

both father and mother, for Mrs. Hatch died January 23, 1831, when in her seventy-ninth year.

Colonel Hatch had a long career of usefulness in various public capacities. "In character he was extremely vigorous and enterprising, always seemed anxious to take hold of new and extensive projects, and to see them carried through. He was often engaged in large operations of various kinds, and was in his day a very influential man." During the days of his proprietorship the Hatch House dispensed its hospitality to many famous persons. Such illustrious men as Washington and Lafayette dined there; such as John Quincy Adams, Commodore Hull, Commodore Bainbridge, General Winfield Scott, President Monroe, and Daniel Webster.

The old garrison house was torn down in 1806, and a large and elegant building erected on the spot, fifty-eight by sixty feet, and three stories high. It thus appears that the first building erected on the place stood one hundred and thirty-six years. A great part of the timber was said to be perfectly sound, pierced, however, by many a bullet received in Philip's war. A relic of this house, it is said, was preserved in the Massachusetts Historical Society. It was the *original* building only that was taken down. An addition built at an early period was moved a little back, where it now stands, "carved o'er with many a long-forgotten name." Up to 1830 a small remnant, one room, of the old garrison might be seen adjoining the wood house. The addition, after its removal, was used as a storehouse for liquors, a place for their sale, and also a barroom where friendly "spirits" could meet and drink and chat leisurely together. This was finally arranged as a dwelling house, and was, until quite recently, occupied by members of the family. Its framework of oak timber, twelve to fourteen inches square, is apparently in excellent preservation, and doubtless still strong enough to defy the ravages of time for many years to come.

The new building had four rooms on the first floor, about twenty-four feet square. A wide hall ran the full length of the house in the three stories. The second floor contained five rooms and the third floor seven, while above was a large open attic. The wing contained three rooms — the kitchen and a barroom with dancing hall above. The sign is still in existence and in the possession of one of Colonel's Hatch's grandchildren.¹ It is about five feet by four, with a strong iron frame above the top by which to hang it. The outside border of the sign is painted a vivid green with a narrow inside bordering of red. The centre is painted white with a stately looking steamboat on it and a landscape in the background. At the top, in large letters, is painted "Steam Boat Hotel" — for that was the real name of the famous old tavern; "I Hatch," below, and "painted by Barron, Pawtucket." It has swung in many a breeze and buffeted with many a fierce storm without the ancient inn

¹ Mrs. W. H. Goodhue, who has also the interesting papers previously referred to. — EDITOR.

door, but it afforded in all weathers the same abundant comfort and good cheer within. It ought to be placed in some public place—a proper room or building—and there carefully preserved as an interesting relic of those "good old times" now forever passed away.

Colonel Hatch died May 16, 1837, in the eighty-third year of his age. He kept the tavern until about a year before his death, and his son, Captain Israel Hatch, kept it until 1839 or 1840. Since then it has been used for dwellings. Its pristine glow has departed. It is at present quite dilapidated and fast falling to decay, and not a trace of the original old garrison remains. After the death of Colonel Hatch the author was appointed administrator of the estate. He collected, among other claims, the proceeds of Colonel Hatch's five shares in the turpentine—sold the outputs, and afterwards sold that part of the famous farm which was the main or largest part of it, to "Draper and Tift" (Josiah Draper and John Tift), and divided the spacious mansion among his heirs-at-law, three sons and two daughters. It was finally owned by Mr. H. F. Barrows, Mrs. E. I. Richards, and Mrs. W. H. Goodhue, the latter the only descendant who had a share in it for a number of years.

Thus its career as a public house ended; thus were closed up the records of this old historic tavern, one hundred and seventy years after Woodblock first opened its doors as an "ordinary"; thus this venerable institution which had watched the passing of six generations of men on the stage of life was laid to rest in its grave. What changes it had witnessed! First it was in the domain of Massachusetts, Pookanocket; then a part of the Old Colony; next in the Massachusetts Bay Colony; then in the Province of Massachusetts Bay; and last in the free, independent State of Massachusetts, under its own constitution in the United States. Beneath that shelter may its grave remain undisturbed forever.¹

Several families settled near Mr. Blackstone's Seat previous to the war. John Fitch was one of these settlers. His grave is mentioned in the buying out of the lands adjoining Blackstone's, and some others had lands near him.

¹ On the morning of January 20th, 1903, a fire gutted the second story building. A paragraph in an afternoon paper at the time gives the whole of these events—the nature and structure of the main building:—"For the last quarter of a century the house has been falling into disrepair and decay and has been unable to meet for the business needs which have taken place in it. The great dining hall has been a meeting place for the ladies and gentlemen and the old-fashioned rooms, in which some of the wealthy guests used to pass their night, was used as a storage shop. In 1892 some five changes were made turning the place into little more than a store. The heavy timber in the wood room and the pine and fir wood was taken to and the old brick-like structure which was attracted the attention of the country for the last century and soon its complete place in the town will probably be put to flight in the smoke." The truly marvellous ride was left for one and a half months but at length what was left was demolished. It is said to have been "entirely and" for the "Old House House" and to have been the only building of any of the kind to have been preserved in the town. The large and complete of the house—the main part of the house—is the old part of the house in which the great room of the house was taken to and the old brick-like structure which was attracted the attention of the country for the last century and soon its complete place in the town will probably be put to flight in the smoke."

and in one case a house is named. This is probably the one mentioned in the following record — that of the laying out of highways, which it would seem were among the earliest laid out within the limits of the town:—

Alexander Balcom, John Stevens, Eben. Tyler, Samuel Tyler, John Daggett, John Savage, Avery ? Savage, Jury to lay out roads, Oct. 3d and 4th 1684.

Laid out the Country road towards Mendon and Dedham, viz. the R. to Ded. from the gate at the N. W. end of the town, through the lane and 2d division and great Plaine in the ancient road, and along that road until it come to the heap of stones upon the ten Mile hill, to the Massachusetts line; wh. way we have laid out 4 R. wide except it be between John Woodcock's land where it is laid out 40 feet or upwards. Likewise the s'd Jury laid out a country highway to Medfield from the aforesaid Country highway to Dedham, viz. between John Woodcock's land 40 feet wide to the line aforesaid. Likewise a way leading to Abbots Run where the way comes that comes from Prov. that leads to Dedham, and along in that road westerly until it comes to John Stephenson's lot; and through his lot and a part of John Blackstone's land along until it comes to Isaac Allen's *house*, and by his fence straight betwixt two hills to meet with s'd road. Moreover, s'd Jury laid out a road from Pawtucket river 40 ft. wide by the river in John Blackstone's land to meet the way that leads to Mendon.

From *Proprietors Records of Rehoboth*

Wooster Carpenter, Clerk.

Another early settlement was at the Falls (so called), later Falls Factories, now Attleborough Falls. The natural advantages of a fine fall of water attracted the settlers to this spot. The banks of rivers were generally selected by the first occupants on account of the "natural meadows" which they afforded, and which were highly valued at a time when the face of the country was largely covered with forests.

The first person who laid out lands at the latter place, as near as can be ascertained from the records, was John Daggett, of Rehoboth, who, in October, 1677, sold fifty acres of them to his brother, Thomas Daggett, of Martha's Vineyard. Edward Hall¹ also at an early period owned fifty acres here, which he gave by will to his son John, and he sold it to John Stevenson² and Samuel Penfield; the latter sold it in 1686 to Thomas Daggett, of Edgartown, and Joseph and Nathaniel Daggett, of Rehoboth, these last two being sons of John Daggett the first, of that town, and first owner of lands in this place.³ This was the land immediately around the Falls, including the privi-

¹ Then of Rehoboth, previously of Taunton. Admitted a freeman of Massachusetts May 2d, 1638. One John Hall was admitted May 14th, 1634, and another May 6th, 1635. Edward had seven children — John, born before his father came to Rehoboth, Samuel, Jeremiah, Thomas, Preserved, Andrew, Benjamin, from 1656 to 1658.

² Was this John Stevenson son-in-law of William Blackstone?

³ This was John the 2d, son of John the 1st, of Watertown and Martha's Vineyard, and he was born in England about 1625 or 1626. He appears to have gone to Rehoboth with his father on his removal from Watertown about 1644, shortly subsequent to the settlement of that place. He was one of the original shareholders in the North Purchase lands, and one of the early settlers of Rehoboth. In 1651 he was married in Rehoboth to Anne Sutton, and they had five children. He appears not to have lived up on all occasions to the right requirements of his times, but sometimes indulged in what may be termed "freedom of speech," as may be seen by the following record: "June 1, 1663. John Dogel of Rehoboth being by Capt. Willett convicted of 2 lyes, is fined 20 shillings." See Daggett-Daggett History. Whether this was a deliberate or unpremeditated act must be left to conjecture.

logs. The first mill built there was a "Corn Mill," owned or occupied by the above-named Joseph Duggett, at what time is not known. This was doubtless the first mill in town. March 20, 1703, the town voted that Joseph Duggett, of Rehoboth, have the privilege "that the stream at the Ten Mile River Falls shall go free of all sorts of taxes until a Corn mill has the constant custom of three score families; and if a saw mill be built, that it bear its equal share in public charges in said town."

Thomas Butler¹ also laid out lands near the mill.

The southeast corner of the town was early inhabited by people from Rehoboth. The borders of the Bay road, which passed through the neighborhood of Newell's and "the city," were occupied by some of the first settlers. This was the main route from Taunton to Boston, and was the first road in the town. It has been said that this road was not town land, but was constructed by outsiders, simply passing through the town's territory, and that the first highway laid out by those having an interest in the territory itself was the one mentioned in the record above quoted—the Meriden road.

¹ The identity mentioned here is certainly uncertain. As an immigrant from western New York, Butler was a man of some promise as a farmer, — a good horse man, and a good settler, — and he has been called by some "the founder of the town." During King Philip's war, when some fifty years of age, he was killed by the Indians in a battle near the present town. He died in 1705.

² Amongst the names of the settlers of Rehoboth.

CHAPTER IV.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PROPRIETORS. — INDIAN WAR. — PROCEEDINGS OF THE TOWN.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PROPRIETORS.

THE proprietors of the Rehoboth North Purchase soon became a distinct body from the town, and kept separate books. Before proceeding to other parts of the history of this town, it may be proper to detail some of the transactions of the proprietors which will throw light on our early history and give a view of the difficulties which they had to encounter in the settlement.

The "Proprietors' Books" commence in 1672. Previous to this their proceedings were recorded in the Rehoboth town books. A certain company — consisting of inhabitants of Rehoboth — purchased, as already appears, a certain tract of land of the Indians, through their agent, and the title was confirmed by the government,¹ and the tract was called the Rehoboth North Purchase. There were eighty-two purchasers or shareholders, seventy-six of whom had whole shares and six half-shares, making seventy-nine whole shares.² What consideration was paid for the purchase does not appear, but some idea of the amount may be suggested by that paid to Philip for "six miles square or the quantity thereof," the territory now Wrentham. Captain Willett negotiated for that tract, and Philip received for it the sum of £24. s.10.

People from Wannamoisett (Swansea) and some residents of other places soon purchased shares in the association; some removed in the course of a few years, and sold their rights to others, and thus the proprietors became a distinct body from the town of Rehoboth and conducted their business

¹ No purchase of Indian lands was valid without the grant or confirmation of the government. See *Old Colony Statutes*.

² An error is apparent in this list of 1672, for 80½ instead of 79 shares are represented. There were 82 purchasers, and of these 76 were interested in whole shares, but they held between them 77½ shares, as may be seen by examination, which with the 6 half-shares additional makes a total of 80½. The only explanation seems to be that in reckoning up the number of shares the three extra ones held by the men owning two full shares each were allowed to offset the three persons holding one share together. An entire share was thus lost in the count, and the extra half-share ascribed to John Woodcock was overlooked. This is not of vital importance, and few would take the trouble to examine the list, but as some curious person might do so, the apparent error is noticed. It is possible the author might have made some mistake in figures in copying the list, but he was usually so correct in such matters that we incline to the belief that the fault lay with the reckoning of the proprietors themselves. — EDITOR.

under a separate organization. They called their meetings by warrant from a justice of the peace, and elected their own officers, moderators, recording clerks, standing committees, and surveyors for laying out lands, and passed by-laws for the regulation of their proceedings. The course of proceeding was at a regular meeting of the proprietors called for the purpose to vote a dividend of so many acres to a share. The proprietor would then, after fixing upon his location, call upon the surveyor and committee to assign him the amount of his dividend, and make return of it in writing to the clerk, who would record it on the proprietors' books, and this would constitute his title. A transfer of a share might be made by deed, a record of the sale being entered in the proprietors' books, or a person might obtain a title to lands by purchasing of a proprietor a right to lay out a certain number of acres in a division already granted, which would be recorded to him in the same manner as to the original owner.

The grant was first made to such inhabitants of Rehoboth as held a fifty-pound estate and upwards, they having made the purchase; but in 1670 all who were then inhabitants of that town were admitted as proprietors, by entering their names, as appears by the following extract from a court record passed October 7th, 1679. —

“Whereas the lands on the northerly side of Rehoboth now sold by deed and passed over to the proprietors of that town, viz., to all that hold lands there from a fifty pounds estate and upwards; yet by *mutual agreement amongst themselves* all the inhabitants were taken in to be joint purchasers, it is determined that the names of such as were not comprehended in the above mentioned deed shall be entered in their town records and in the public records of the colony, to be, if they desire it, as full and equal purchasers and proprietors in those lands as the rest.”

These lands were at first exempted from full taxation, “to accommodate the poorer sort with land and yet so as not to oppress them as much otherwise.” The court ordered “that all the North lands, both farms and else,” should be taxed in a rate separate from the town of Rehoboth, and should pay thirty shillings in a £40 rate to the colony, and in the same proportion in the administered and other charges, “until the Court shall see cause otherwise to dispose concerning them, until which time they shall be and remain within the Constablership of the township of Rehoboth.” October 7th, 1679.

The proprietors sometimes exercised legislative powers, which were, however, to some extent, authorized by statute: —

June 10, 1707. “Voted, that all who have lands laid out in the North Purchase and have not renewed their bounds since the 1st of March last, shall, between this date and the last of September next, renew the same, as *theyed the name of the Miffing to be renewed as a debt due; the one half to the treasury, and the other half to the Proprietors, any one of whom are authorized to procure this act.*”

At the same meeting it was ordered that all the timber cut on the undivided lands should be forthwith seized; and a committee was appointed to hear and determine by what right it was cut, and if found without good right, then to take the methods of the law in that case provided.

September 16, 1707. "Voted that the committee, with the surveyor, shall lay out all needful highways for the Proprietors in said Purchase, and make restitution to persons whose lands are taken for this purpose in any of the undivided lands." A large proportion of the highways in this town were laid out by the proprietors, accompanied by the selectmen.¹

November, 1708.² The proprietors chose a committee to look after the northerly bounds of their purchase. At this time commenced the long and tedious contest³ about the northern boundary of the purchase which was the Old Colony line. The subject was discussed at every meeting, and committees often appointed to devise means of protecting the rights of the purchasers. Petitions were sent to the General Court, counsel were employed to defend their rights; and finally a petition and an agent were sent to England.

July 21, 1714. Voted, "that two acres of land on the hill before Mr. David Freeman's, where the Burying place now is, shall be laid out for a Burying place for Attleborough." This is the graveyard near the village called "the city."

June 13, 1717. "Voted unanimously that Col. Nath'l Paine Esq. Mr. Richard Waterman Esq. Lieut. Anthony Sprague, Mr. Dan. Jenks, and Mr. Dan. Smith be a committee to see to the Northerly bounds, hereby giving them full power to act in all respects in behalf of the whole Propriety concerning running the line between Attleborough, Wrentham,⁴ and Dedham, where it ought lawfully to be stated according to our purchase deed."

July 14, 1717. The committee were authorized to defend all suits of law "that may be commenced by any person or persons against the Propriety, and to empower any attorney or attornies that may be needful for advice; and further to commence any action or actions that they may think proper for the benefit of the said Propriety."

November 2, 1720. Voted, "that the former Committee still proceed with their Petitions even until they send to England about the right of our northern line (if they cannot be heard in our own government), and that the expense be paid by the proprietors according to their several interests."

¹ See *Ply. Rec.*, Vol. 2, ps. 32, 36, 37, 38, 39, 62, 63, 77.

² The first commission for settling the line or boundary between Plymouth and Massachusetts was issued June 4, 1639. See *Ply. Rec.*, vol. 1, p. 127. Given at large there.

³ The cause of the dispute was the erroneous running of the line by the commissioners in 1661-64, and the acceptance of the line by them. From that time a controversy commenced and continued for years at great expense. Taunton N. P. and Rehoboth N. P. united in trying to rectify the line, but Massachusetts held them strictly to the compact, though the error was evident.

⁴ The Wampanoag's territory extended into Wrentham, etc., to Chikatawbat's lands. See *Clarke's Hist. of Norton*.

Voted, "that one hundred acres of unvalued land be sold to defray the expenses of defending the northern line."

At a subsequent meeting in 1752 the clerk was authorized to sell to any of the proprietors seventy-nine and one-half acres of unvalued land at eight shillings *virginiana* per acre.

Feb. 21, 1756-27. Voted, "that any person or persons who will sue for our rights to the land challenged by Dorchester or Stoughton, Wentworth and Hollis, and to the South of Nath. Woodward and Solomon Saffrey's line, and to the north of the town, and all that part that lieth within their challenge, shall have the fourth part of said tract if they recover it to the use of the Propriety." Mayor Leonard, Esq., Captain John Foster, and Ensign Daniel Peck appeared in said meeting and accepted the offer.

It is not often that the dull, monotonous pages of a vital record are enlivened by the poetic effusions of a rhymer, but the record books of the Rehoboth North Purchase have one such specimen, constituting the foundation of a land title. In these days there lived in town one Joshua Barrows, a very well known contemporary rhymer, said to be, however, entirely illiterate—unable either to read or write. He was eccentric in his habits and quite a prodigy, of whose productions many specimens were long remembered, and of whose wit and eccentricity tradition long preserved numerous amusing anecdotes. His productions were sometimes satirical and personal as well as humorous. He seems to have suffered the common fate of poets, poverty. He appeared at a meeting of the proprietors, June 3, 1727, and presented a petition in rhyme, begging for a donation for himself of some of the unvalued lands. The petition is spread on the records of the propriety at full length, and is as follows:—

Your Honor, I do beseech
To give me good and true
Twenty good acres of virginia
In gift and donation.

Ten acres of the common land
Lying about your great garden
From the said land bestowing
As soon as I do live.

Such a quantity I never wanted
From this small child beggary
But when in trouble I shall write
Why should I not be satisfied?

From this society let duty bind
I set it to my conscience
But to my own use, I thought I should
When the time shall come to die.

No more in rhyme here at this time,
 No more I have at hand,
 And so I'll end, your faithful friend
 And servant to command,

JOSHUA BARROWS.

ATTLEBOROUGH, June 5th 1727.

The prayer of this petition our good-humored forefathers could not refuse. "Upon the hearing of the aforesaid petition of Joshua Barrows, there were sundry persons in said meeting, which were proprietors, which gave him land to take up upon their rights — their names are as followeth," etc. — making in the whole thirteen acres, which were laid out and recorded to him.

It appears from the report of a committee that an agent was actually employed in England to defend their boundaries. In their account are the following items: —

	£	s.	d.
Paid for silver money to send to England	21	17	6
Paid to Nath. Brown for carrying the money to Boston to send to England	2	02	6
To expence at Providence when both committees met there to wait on Gov. Jencks, and writing to send to England after his return from England, &c. &c.	1	7	6

Jan. 3, 1750-51. "Chose Col. Thomas Bowen, Maj. John Foster and Capt. Samuel Tyler a committee, fully empowering them to prepare a petition praying the General Court that some effectual method may be taken for the perfecting of a straight line from the middle of Accord Pond (so called) westward to that station which is three English miles south of the southernmost part of Charles River, agreeable¹ to a settlement made by the Government of New Plymouth and the Massachusetts in the year 1640."²

Sept. 26, 1751. "Made choice of James Otis,³ of Boston, and John Foster of Attleborough, Esqrs. a committee in addition to Benjamin Day and Nathaniel Smith (chosen at a former meeting,) to present a petition to be heard at the General Court at their next session, and to pursue said petition until it is fully determined by said Court; and to petition anew if need be, to have the line settled on the northerly part of our Purchase."

May 19, 1752. "Chose a committee and gave them full power to eject any person or persons out of the possession of those lands they have possessed themselves of, within the North Purchase Grant, without the consent of the Proprietors, as also full power to sue and pursue any action brought for the purpose, to final judgment and execution."

May 27, 1754. The committees of Rehoboth North Purchase and Taunton North Purchase entered into an agreement to commence actions of ejectment

¹ See agreement of Massachusetts and Plymouth on the boundaries, *Ply. Col. Laws*, p. 335.

² For fuller description of controversy see *Mss.* chapter.

³ Was this James Otis the celebrated orator?

against persons who had intruded upon their respective purchases, the costs to be borne equally by the two proprietors.

Divisions of land in the North Purchase have been made among the proprietors at different times, as follows:—

1	A divided of 80 acres to a share was granted	May 18, 1668-9
2	" " " 20 " " " " " "	Feb. 28, 1684
3	" " " 50 acres to 2 parts 20 acres each	Oct. 25, 1690
4	" " " 20 acres to 2 lotments	1702
5	" " " 50 acres was granted	June 15, 1707
6	" " " 20 " " " " " "	Feb. 20, 1714
7	" " " 20 " " " " " "	Feb. 20, 1720-7
8	" " " 15 " " " " " "	April 13, 1730
9	" " " 5 " " " " " "	April 13, 1730
10	" " " 2 " " " " " "	1730
11	" " " 2 " " " " " "	1801
12	" " " 1 " " " " " "	1820
13	" " " 1 " " " " " "	May 10, 1832

The most valuable parts of this purchase were taken up by these divisions many years since. A small but broken and unproductive fragment, and the last remnant of this common and undivided land, still remained on Cutting's Plain (so called) on the road from East Atholborough at the time this history was first published (1834), but since that time it has all been divided.

From their records and the extracts which have been made, it appears that the proprietors made their own regulations, gave their own titles to lands, and in fact enacted all their laws relative to the ownership and the original conveyance of lands included in their purchases.

NAMES OF THE CLERKS OF THE PROPRIETY.

WILLIAM GARDENER, Junr.	Asses.	May 15, 1682
DANIEL SMITH	"	May 31, 1700
NATHAN GARDENER	"	April 13, 1730
JOHN ROBBINS, Junr.	"	May 1, 1732
JOHN DAGGETT	"	Dec. 8, 1760
LENEZEOR DAGGETT	"	May 10, 1832

He continued till his death, March 4, 1832. Lucas Daggett was chosen May 10, 1833, and was the last of the clerks of the propriety.

The last record of the laying out of common or proprietors' land is by Lucas Daggett, Clerk, March 15, 1830. He laid out to Hartford 15000 rods of land, more or less."

INDIAN WAR.

The few events connected with this war which occurred here should not be omitted in the history of the town.

The protracted winter which we now (1844) once remembered with the shuddering recollection of the Indians. These fields and woods, these hills and vales were once trod by the wild hunters of the forest. They were the

domain of another race of men, who have long since passed away and are known only by the brief histories and scattered relics which their conquerors have preserved. But whatever relates to them is interesting. They were distinguished by many peculiarities. They had their savage vices, but possessed at the same time their savage virtues. They were hardy, bold, and warlike.

The most important and critical period in the history of the colony was the Indian war of 1675-76. This was a gloomy and fearful period to these infant settlements. The hour of their destruction seemed to be drawing nigh. They were a scattered people — spreading over a wide extent of territory — peculiarly exposed in their lives and property to Indian depredations. The approaching contest required all the patience, fortitude, and courage which men are ever called to exercise. They had to contend against fearful odds. Nearly all the New England tribes, embracing many thousand warriors, had combined for their destruction, guided by the matchless genius of a chief versed in all the arts of savage warfare. It was a war of extermination — a contest for victory in which there was no quarter, no mercy.

In April, 1676, the Indians, having suffered several severe defeats in a body, adopted a new mode of warfare, and dispersed themselves in small parties over the country, burning, killing, and destroying wherever opportunity offered. Among other outrages they attacked Woodcock's garrison, "killed one man, and one of Woodcock's sons, and wounded another, and burnt the son's house." Some circumstances connected with this event appear to have been accurately preserved by tradition, from which and other sources are gathered the following particulars:—

His sons were at work in a cornfield near the house. The Indians concealed in a wood adjoining this field — now the meadow on the east of the turnpike below the bridge — approached to its borders and suddenly fired upon them. The workmen fled to the garrison, leaving the dead body on the field. The Indians, to gratify their spite against the family, cut off the son's head, stuck it on a long pole, which they set up on a hill at some distance in front of the house, and in full view of the family, to aggravate their feelings as much as possible. From this time Woodcock swore never to make peace with the Indians. He ever after hunted them like wild beasts. He was a man of resolute and determined character, and tradition says that not a few fell victims to his vengeance and a sacrifice to the manes of his murdered son.

This attack was in April. The body of his son (whose name was Nathaniel) was buried on the spot where he fell, nearly in the centre of the yard, which has ever since been reserved for a burying ground. This attack was in all probability between the date of Pierce's flight, March 26th, and April 26th, 1676, and *after* the attack on Wrentham, when the town was burnt.

Woodcock's son Nathaniel, as already mentioned, and a son-in-law were killed, and one of his sons was severely wounded by several bullets in both shoulders.

A detail of six soldiers had been sent to this garrison for its protection by the Plymouth government, as may be seen by Woodcock's petition to the General Court on this page. They had been temporarily withdrawn for service elsewhere, leaving him dependent upon his own resources and in great danger from these roving Indians. There were only fourteen persons living in his settlement at the time, consisting of his sons and daughters and sons-in-law, and including two or three others; and probably a man by the name of Rocket, whose signature as a witness appears on several instruments, was one of them.

Under these circumstances Woodcock applies to the authorities for aid and protection from both colonies. In his account he refers to his own losses and to the damage which Wrentham had already sustained by an attack of the Indians. His statements must be regarded as authentic and true, while they correct some mistakes of early historians. (Ancient accounts fix the date incorrectly in May.) He entreats the government to send him a surgeon, to dress the wounds of his son, and thinks it might be safe for him if he came in the right time; and he also begs that they would send him half a dozen soldiers to man his garrison and supply the place of those who had been stationed there before, but had been suddenly withdrawn.

The following is the petition:—

Honorable Gentlemen and Council.

I TAKE bold to inform your Honors how God's afflictions have fallen upon me and my family. God has been pleased to give the heathen commission to break in upon us, with their spears and arrows, and another of my sons, some wounded, sent with several bullets in the shoulders—but in the midst of these our afflictions God hath sharpened MATHIAS I was commissioned by my authority to raise my station but of a sudden they were pleased to cut off my garrison soldiers, not only the men and weapons, and I am in a very good doubt what to do. As we are but 14 of us and but six that have arms, and most of us sick. I would entreat your Honors to consider our afflicted condition to send me some assistance for the present till my family is able to draw off—and as my house and family have been so vexed to the Country, I trust I may not be forgotten by better citizens, but would entreat your Honors to send me half a dozen men to secure my family, for if I were able to go away I could not remove my children along with me. I have near a hundred bushels of corn in my house besides other provisions—and I bless God for it, and am very loth to be away and leave it to the heathen. We are now there not above twelve or sixteen Indians that have been all this while in our neighborhood at Wrentham—and I would entreat your Honors to send me a surgeon to dress my wounded son. I hope there is no danger to come if they come by night. Not to trouble you any further at present, begging your prayers, hoping God will move your hearts with compassion graciously to send us some relief—and I must Yours to send in what I may.

Agnes Woodcock.

John Woodcock.

I trust I shall be able to satisfy what change will come upon me.

It may be of interest to learn what effect this petition for assistance had upon the honorable gentlemen to whom it was addressed.

At a Session of the Council held at Boston 17th of June 1676, at 8 of the clock.

The Council being informed that the Indians are seeking to and upon Wrentham, Woodcock's (now Mount Hope) and some of his friends belong to the English. It is ordered that the Major of Suffolk should see to it, that he forthwith do such a party as he judgeth fit.

and necessary to repair to Dedham on 2d day next early, and range the woods to and again for the discovery, distressing and destroying of the enemy where ere they find them. — committing the conduct of that party to whom he sees mete, ordering it that each soldier be compleatly armed with fire arms and ammunition and provisions for four days.

PAST BY THE COUNCIL.

EDW. RAWSON SECT'Y.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CAPT. THOMAS BRATTS.

Ordered to take 20 of his troops with such officers as he may choose, and an officer and ten troopers of Lieut. Halley's troope and march to Dedham, where are ordered to be an officer and 18 foot soldiers mounted, from Dorchester, 6 from Roxbury, and 24 from Dedham with an officer, all appointed to be at Dedham the rendezvous this day at 4 P.M.

Sc.

You are to march with your troopers and dragoons to be at John Woodcock's by midnight where you shall meet with an Indian Pylot and his file of musketeers, which pylot has engaged to bring you upon Phillip and his company who are not above 30 men as he saith, and not 10 miles from Woodcock's. Be sure to secure your pilot to prevent falsehood and escape. In case you meet not with a pylot at Woodcock's you are to send to Mr. Newman at Rehoboth and let him know of your being there.

Whether Woodcock obtained the surgeon is not known, or the six men permanently, but we may presume he did, from this prompt attention — for those times of slow conveyance of news or needs — paid to his petition for assistance against the "skulking Indians," at that special crisis. These were certainly perilous times.

PIERCE'S FIGHT. — This town was the scene of one of the most severe, bloody, and fatal battles fought during the war. It took place on Sunday, March 26th, 1676, in that part which is now Cumberland, R. I., near the Blackstone River. The place is still pointed out.

The government of Plymouth, fearing that their settlements would be again attacked, after so many outrages had been committed in Massachusetts, ordered out a company for their defence, consisting of sixty-three Englishmen¹ and twenty Cape Indians,² under the command of Captain Michael Pierce, of Scituate. He immediately marched in pursuit of the enemy, who were supposed to be in the vicinity. He rendezvoused at the garrison in Rehoboth on Saturday night. The next day, "having intelligence in his Garrison at Seaconicke that a party of the enemy lay near Mr. Blackstone's, he went forth with 63 English and 20 Cape Indians," and soon discovered four or five Indians in a piece of woods who pretended to be lame and wounded, but

¹ Fifty was the number ordered but they received some recruits while at Rehoboth.

² This account differs in some respects from that given by Church, who states that there were only fifty whites and twenty Cape Indians. According to Newman's account there were fifty-two English killed, so there must have been more in the battle. I have relied, for the most of the particulars in this description, on a "Continued Account of the Bloody Indian War from March till August 1676," now in the hands of Mr. S. G. Drake, Boston. It was published in London the same year, and contains a minute and apparently accurate detail of this battle and many of the other important events of the war. One volume, the above mentioned, containing three or four letters, has been lately discovered, and was never reprinted in this country. This note has been almost unchanged since 1834. Therefore refers to that time. — EDITOR.

perceived the danger to lead the whites into ambuscade. For they soon discovered five hundred more of the enemy. The Indian force in this battle was commanded by Cananicut, a Narragansett chief, who was soon after taken prisoner and executed.

Pierce, though aware of their superiority of numbers, courageously pursued them when they began to retreat slowly; but there soon appeared another company of four hundred Indians, who were now able completely to surround him. A party of the enemy were stationed on the opposite side of the river to prevent the English crossing; they were thus attacked in front and rear by an overwhelming force. Thus all chance of retreat and all hope of escape were cut off. This was a most trying moment. But there was no flinching—no quailing. Each one knew that in all human probability he must die on that field, and that too under the most appalling circumstances, be the hand of a merciless enemy who sought their extermination. But heaven and nobly did they submit to their fate. Each one resolved to do his duty and sell his life at the dearest rate. They were truly, "The hopeless warriors of a willing doom." Wounds and death were alike in the hands of such a foe. The wounded must be reckoned with the killed. At such a time the awful warwhoop of the Indian would have sent a thrill of terror to the hearts of any but brave men.

At this critical juncture Captain Pierce made an exceedingly judicious movement. He ordered his men into a circle, back to back, with four spaces between each man,—thus enlarging the circle to its greatest extent,—presenting a front to the enemy in every direction and incessantly scattering their fire over a greater surface; whilst the Indians stood in a deep circle, one behind another, forming a compact mass and presenting a front where every shot must take effect. In the words of the account just referred to in the note, "Capt. Pierce cast his men into a ring, and fought back to back, and were double-double distance all in one ring, whilst the Indians were as thick as they could stand thirty deep." He thus made a brave resistance for two hours—all the while keeping the enemy at a distance and his own men in perfect order—and kept up a constant and destructive fire upon the Indians. But no courage or skill could prevail in such an unequal contest or longer resist such a force. At last, overpowered by numbers, Captain Pierce and fifty-five English and ten Cape Indians were slain on the spot. "Which in such a cause and upon such disadvantage must certainly be styled the bed of honor."¹ But this victory was gained at a great sacrifice. The Indians lost no money, not counting women and children, as in the great swamp fight at Narragansett, which loss was computed at over three hundred. Other authorities state the number as 110; which in all probability is more nearly correct.

¹ *Continental Society for the promotion of commerce, manufactures, agriculture and husbandry.*

Hubbard states that when Captain Pierce found what danger he was in he sent a messenger to Providence for assistance; but the message not being delivered at once, the needed aid could not be furnished in time. A tradition in Seekonk says a message was sent by Pierce before he left the garrison there by a man who "attended meeting" in Providence. Not arriving until after the service had begun, he failed to deliver his letter to the captain to whom it was addressed, either from ignorance of its contents or "some other unaccountable cause," and so Captain Pierce and his handful of men had to fight their desperate and bloody fight alone. The captain, it is said, fell "earlier than many others," and Amos, "one of his friendly Indians," bravely and honorably stood by his commander's side and fought "until affairs had become utterly desperate," and then made his escape "by blackening his face with powder," in imitation of the enemy.

Bliss recounts the escape by strategy of several of these Indians. "One being closely pursued by a hostile Indian, sought shelter behind a large rock. Thus the two were watching in awful suspense to shoot each other. But Capt. Pierce's Indian, putting his cap on the end of his gun, raised it to the view of his enemy, who immediately fired at the cap, and the next moment was shot dead by the friendly Indian. Another in his flight, pretended to pursue an Englishman with an uplifted tomahawk, holding it in threatening attitude above his head, and thus escaped. A third, being closely pursued, took shelter behind the roots of a large tree that had been lately turned out of the ground, and the hostile Indian, coming up upon the opposite side, was lying in wait to shoot him on his deserting his station, when the friendly Indian, boring a hole through his broad shield, unobserved by the other, shot him dead."

An important letter, written the day after the battle, the original copy of which is in the library of the American Antiquarian Society at Worcester, gives some facts with regard to this fight which may be taken as authentic, as it was written by the Rev. Noah Newman, the second minister of Rehoboth, to the Rev. John Cotton, of Plymouth.

REHOBOTH, 27 of the first,¹ 1766.

Reverend and dear Sir,

I received yours dated the 20th of this instant wherein you gave me a doleful relation of what had happened with you, and what a distressing Sabbath you had passed. I have now, according to the words of your own letter, an opportunity to retaliate your account with a relation of what yesterday happened to the great saddening of our hearts, filling us with an *awful* expectation of what further evils it may be antecedaneous to, both respecting ourselves and you. Upon the 25th of this instant, Capt. Pierce went forth with a small party of his men and Indians with him, and upon discovering the enemy fought him, without damage to himself, and judged that he had considerably dammified them. Yet he, being of no great force, chose rather to retreat and go out the next morning with a recruit of men. And accordingly he did, taking pilots from us, that were acquainted with the ground. But it pleased the sovereign God so to order it, that they were enclosed with a great multitude of the enemy, which hath

¹ Old Style, March first month.

whose defence they had thus sacrificed their lives. They were taken by surprise and completely surrounded by a force ten times their superior in numbers. Pierce was a bold and adventurous man — fear formed no part of his character. His men partook of his courage. They pushed forward, perhaps imprudently — and thus fell into the snare which their enemy had prepared for them. Considering the numbers engaged, it was doubtless the most warmly and closely contested of all the engagements which took place during that eventful period between the white and the red men. At the lowest estimate two hundred, and according to others nearly four hundred, were killed on both sides. History has recorded with applause every feat of bravery when performed on a more conspicuous station, whilst it has often overlooked the humble though equally meritorious exploit. It requires more true courage to die on such a field with such a foe than on the plains of Waterloo, amid “the pomp and circumstance of glorious war.” All historians should call these men truly brave men, and laud them in no measured terms, for this was a most fearful encounter, and they met their deaths like heroes.

The following adventure, in which “Old Woodcock” was engaged, is abridged from a communication in the *Massachusetts Historical Collection*, furnished by the research of the late Dr. Mann, formerly of Wrentham. It rests upon the authority of tradition, but appears to be well authenticated.

A man by the name of Rocket, in searching for a stray horse, discovered a train of forty-two Indians, about sunset. From their appearance he suspected they intended to attack the settlement at Wrentham the next morning, after the men had dispersed to their work; he therefore followed them secretly till they halted for the night, when he hastily returned to the settlement and gave notice to the inhabitants. A consultation was held, at which it was agreed to attack the Indians early the next morning. A company of thirteen, under the command of Captain Ware, was hastily collected from Wrentham and the vicinity, who, having secured the women and children and the infirm in the garrison, set out for the Indian encampment, where they arrived just before daylight, and were posted within a short distance, with orders to reserve their fire till the enemy began to decamp.

Between daylight and sunrise the Indians suddenly rose from their resting places, when, upon a signal given, a general discharge was made, which threw them into the utmost consternation. Some, in their confusion, while attempting to escape, leaped down a precipice of rocks from ten to twenty feet in height, and some of the fugitives were overtaken and slain. Two of them, who were closely pursued, attempted to conceal themselves in “Mill Brook,” where they were found and killed. It is related that one Woodcock discharged his long musket, called in those days a buccaneer, at a fugitive Indian at the distance of eighty rods, and broke his thigh bone and then killed him.

The number of Indians killed was from twenty to twenty-four, and not out of the whites. The place where this bold adventure occurred is at that part of the summit Wrentham w/d. is now Franklin. The large rock where the Indians were encamped is to this day called *Indian Rock*. The time is not certainly ascertained, but it was, without much doubt, in the spring or summer of 1674, when the Indian forces were dispersed in parties throughout the country. And probably it was soon after the attack on Woodcock's house and by the same party.

This man Rocket, who was the means of obtaining this victory over the enemy, was one of the witnesses of the original government deed of the Rehoboth North Purchase. He used, it is said, to take his family to meet the Indians to Rehoboth or five miles to Wrentham, over the rough trails—they were hardly made—of those early days, but to what purpose we cannot be certain. January 5th, 1680, one Joseph Rocket married Mary Willimoth, in Rehoboth. If it was the same man, she must have been a second wife, as this Joseph died July 27th, 1683.

We are glad to know of one occasion even when the mode of warfare so continually practised by the red men, was successfully adopted by our forefathers, and a complete surprise obtained, followed by the total rout of the enemy.

NINE MEN'S MISTERY.—This is the name of a spot in Canterbury, R. I., where nine men were slain in Philip's war. This place is near the house of the late Elisha Waterman, Esq., just north of "Camp Swamp" (so called). The only circumstances of this event which I have gathered are these: A company of nine men were in advance of or had strayed from their party for some purpose, when they discovered a number of Indians near this spot, whom they immediately pursued and attacked; but a large number of the enemy rushed out of the swamp and surrounded them. The whites, placing their backs to a large rock near by, fought with desperation till every one of them was killed on the spot. The rest of their party, who were within hearing of their guns, hastened to their rescue, but arrived too late to render them any assistance. Their bodies were buried on the spot, which is now designated by a large pile of stones.

I have seen no notice of this occurrence in history, but as to the main fact there can be no doubt. The bones of these men were disinterred (now many years ago) by some physicians for anatomical purposes, and were found nearly perfect. But the people in the vicinity insisted upon their being restored, which was accordingly done. One of the slain was ascertained to be a *Blackman* of Rehoboth, from the remarkable circumstances of a set of double front teeth which he was known to possess.

The time when this happened none of my informants could tell, but there is some reason for believing that it was at or about the time of Patten's fight.

The above account of the existence of "Nine Men's Misery" (or "Dead Men's Bones," as it was sometimes called) was received by the author from tradition, from intelligent persons living in the vicinity, who had been familiar with the locality during their lives, and who were descendants of those who settled and lived near the spot. As to the main fact, he felt there was no doubt, for such an event as the slaughter of nine men in one spot during the Indian war and their burial on the same spot would produce a deep impression on the minds of those living in that locality, and would be transmitted to succeeding generations, especially as some of the victims were their own friends and neighbors. The incidents and circumstances attending the event would be liable to uncertainty, but the existence of the large rock and the artificial mound of small stones would tend to confirm the tradition and indicate the place of burial.

Since the publication of the above account a most singular and remarkable discovery has been made confirming the tradition as an historical fact. This is the letter of Rev. Mr. Newman, quoted on a previous page, which gives the names of the killed in Pierce's fight. The fact that the medical students, from curiosity or to verify the tradition, or other motives, did visit the spot and exhume the bodies, and prove their identity by that of Benjamin Buckland (or Bucklin), of Rehoboth, from his unusually large frame and "double set of teeth all around," has also been substantiated. What is still more remarkable than the discovery of the letter, the author met a physician soon after the publication of this history, in 1834, who took pains to state that he had read the account of "Nine Men's Misery," and was able to testify that it was substantially correct, as he was one of the "medical gentlemen" present, and aided in the exhumation and finally examined the bones. Having this statement directly from his own mouth, it is personal knowledge of the event, so far as this fact shows.

The questions arise — Who were the nine? and When were they slain? and What was the cause? This also is solved. There were four men from Rehoboth killed in Pierce's fight, and their names are recorded on the records kept for the Rehoboth North Purchase, as "Slaine 26 March 1676." Two of them, John Fitch, Jr., and John Read, Jr., were entered first, and at some distance on the page were entered the other two, Benjamin Buckland and John Miller, Jr.,¹ thus proving that they were a part of Pierce's men, and were slain on the same day of the battle. This confirms my belief that after the battle was lost these nine survivors attempted to escape and retreated to this "Camp Swamp," in hopes of concealing themselves there from the enemy, but were discovered, pursued, and overtaken by them, surrounded at this rock, and there killed. They were probably not discovered at the time the

¹Robert Beers, an Irishman, and then an inhabitant of Rehoboth, was slain March 28th and Schmdah Saban in June following.

Reluctant people went to the scene of the battle and buried their friends on the field, but were afterwards discovered by them and buried on the spot where they fell, which was properly called those nine men's nursery, who had so nearly effected their escape and were thus slaughtered. It is seldom that such an event not mentioned in contemporary histories can be so well established by subsequent evidence.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TOWN.

The warrants for the early town meetings contained but few articles, perhaps ten or twelve, while that of the year 1887 contained fifty-five, and there have at times been more than that number. The most important actions for a number of years were naturally those relating to the settling of ministers—for the first candidate was apparently not more sure to please than than now—and the building of a church with various arrangements for the support and comfort of the minister when obtained. These actions of the town will be noticed in their proper department, such matters being now in the hands of the separate parishes, not in those of the people "in town meeting assembled."

As time went on the cause of education arose—a matter of constantly increasing importance, until now it has assumed very great proportions, both as to size and cost, but is thoroughly systematized and well managed.

Now and again, very early, votes are found relating to the laying out of roads as they became needed to connect the various settlements scattered over the territory. Now it is not the making of thoroughfares from part to part of the town which claims the attention of the citizens, but the lighting of the many already made, the laying out and curbing of streets in the villages, and the laying of gas, water, and sewerage pipes.

The poor of the town soon appeared upon the books, being consistent with the establishment of every town, church, or social organization. At first they were cared for by the selection of officers resolving them into their families, the town being responsible for their maintenance. At the town meetings their names were presented and they were auctioned off to those willing to assume their care, and who made bids for the *parishes* (&c.). It would seem that at such a *confine* competition could not be very great, since prices must be in a descending, not ascending, scale over these articles—which increased in expense as they decreased in value—and the forlorn creatures thus "as it were on sale," were knocked down to the lowest bidder.

A town was often taken upon the cattle and swine then permitted to roam at will everywhere about the roads, the former being marked in various ways and the latter properly chained. Every few pages during the records of the earlier years the contents of the books comes upon accounts of "perambulating the hills" between this and the surrounding towns, these satiric

boundary lines proving most uneasy of arrangement and a constant source of controversy even down to the present time.

It is not possible in a work of this kind to give a complete account of the measures taken by the town, but an extract quoted here and there from the books will serve to show something of the questions arising year by year, and of the modes of settlement adopted by our fathers — to show also something of the manners and customs as they have been made and changed, and, by contrast, the growth of the town, not only in wealth and population, but in various other ways.

The North Purchase books contain the "laying out of the lands," but an occasional reference is made to individual lay-outs in the town books: —

"Dec. ye 26, 1704. Joseph Read, Negro," had a "lott" of twelve and a half acres laid out to him; also two other lots containing six and one fourth acres in 1707. "John Read, Negro" had lands laid out November 17, 1719. These may have been the lands occupied by such a family on the Daggett farm, lying on what is known as the "New Boston" road.

Town debts were apparently sometimes fully paid with a surplus in the treasury.

February 9, 1709. "Voted to hold town meetings at the house of Mr. William Stark until the town should be better provided." The meetings then were at nine o'clock in the morning. For some years, at this period, the town was chiefly occupied on the minister's house, lands, the church, etc., and that work, with money accounts, largely occupied the meetings.

In 1714 it was voted that several persons, six in all, should build pounds at their "own cost and charge."

The first mention of the poor on the books is among the accounts for 1713, the entry being made October 5, 1714. "Memorandum, Eleven shillings of the money that was received of Capt. Leonard for the poor went to pay Hugh Gay's rate, and the other four remains in the town stock for the poor."

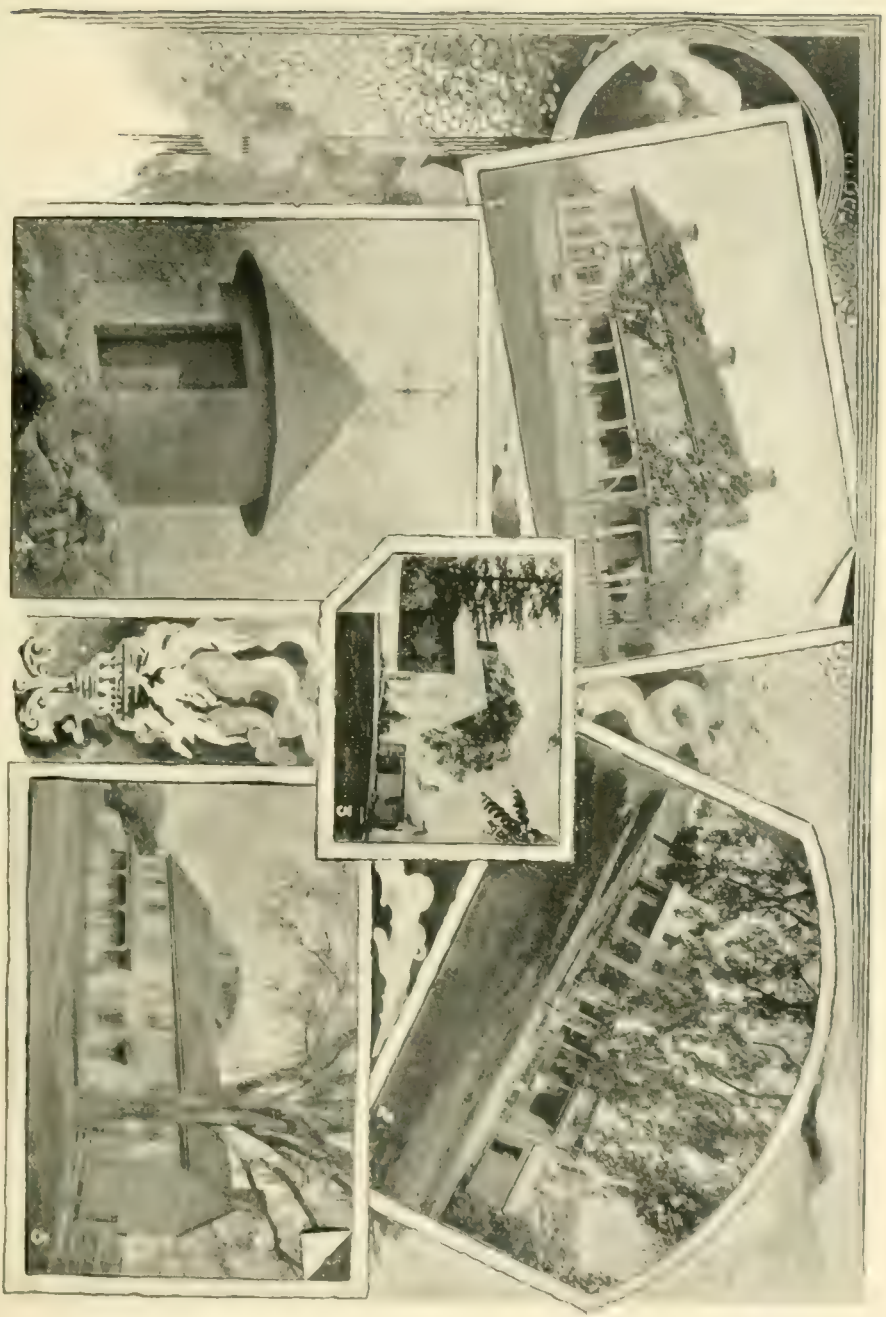
August 27, 1716. "The Town very Chearfully granted a Tax of a Hundred and Ten pounds to Defray the Necessary Charges arising within sd Town. Two thirds to be in money and the other third to be understood in the species that use to be other years."

December 30, 1718, the town was divided into four quarters, and later the consequent highways laid out are noted with descriptions of the same.

The first recorded account rendered to the town for care of poor persons was one presented by Daniel Peck, under date, October 22, 1722, for care of Martha Scot and her child, as follows: 8s. 6d. for Doctor; 10s. 6d. for three weeks board in sickness; 1£. 1s. for board other seven weeks; 11s. for the child for five weeks and four days; total, 2£. 11s.

There are yearly votes as to cattle and swine, with no variation up to April, 1828, when it was voted that horses and neat cattle were to be restrained from running at large. So long as they roamed the public roads some mode

1. Bartons Tavern. 2. Residence of Miss Ruth S. Robinson, built in 1819. 3. Residence of M. Carleton Lathrop, built by Captain John Stearns about 1741. 4. Powder House, built in 1788. 5. Newell's Tavern.



In 1766 the following instructions were sent to the town's deputy : —

To Deacon Ebenezer Lane, Rep.

Sir as we have made choys of you to represent us at the Grait and General Court of this Province, we think proper to give sune Instructions, and first not to Give up any Privileges that we Enjoy Either by Charter or as Subjects of Grait Britton.

2ly to Be frugal of the Province's money and not to vote for any uncommon Grants pertiecklerly as to Loses that Sune has Sustained in Boston in the year 1765 By Rioters, though we abhor all Rioters and tumultus Proceedings and are willing to Bear our testimony against them, yet we see no Reason why the Province should make up those Losses and thairfour Instruct to vote against It.

September 12, 1768. " Voted to Build a house for Keeping the Town Stock of ammunitiun in for the futer and proseaded to Chuse a commety for that purpos namely Capt. John Stearns, Capt. Daniel Read, Capt. Henry Sweet ware chosen as commety men for that purpos, and then the commety went and looked a place to set s'd. house and they said that they found a place in Jacob Newells Land which s'd Newell said he wold give the ground to buld the hous upon." Jacob Newell, the giver of the land, was town treasurer at that time, and he made the following entry upon the book : " Where as ye Town of Attleborough have agreed to Buld a Powder house and set s'd house on ye High Hill eastardly from ye Meeting-House on my Land I give liberty to set s'd House their, and also for my Heirs and assigns I agree ye People shall have Liberty to Pass to and from sd House to carry their Powder or any other ammunitiun and bring of again ye same at any time or times so that they in Passing Regurly Not to Leve Down fence or any Enclosen thing to Do Damage as witness my hand —

" Attleborough, Oct. ye 4th 1768

Jacob Newell."

The committee executed their commission promptly, as the building was erected during the months of October and November and the accounts for cost of construction were settled in December. This old building is still in existence and may be seen on a little eminence east of the church at West Attleborough in the same lot or near the schoolhouse. It is circular in shape, nearly twelve feet in diameter, with a cone-shaped roof. It was built of brick, of which six thousand were used, as may be seen by the order of the selectmen on the town treasurer. It was used as a storehouse for " materials of war " both during the days of the Revolution and the War of 1812, and powder was kept there even up to recent times. Colonel John Daggett took his supply for the Assonett expedition from there, and the town voted to replace the amount during the following year. The building is now dilapidated and going to decay,¹ but it is full of old memories still. Had it powers of speech every brick could tell some exciting or thrilling tale, for three times since they were placed in their positions the war bugles have sounded the call to arms, and three times the joy bells have rung in the days of peace. In 1771 the General Court met at Harvard College.

¹ It has been repaired, and at the present writing is in good condition. It is now within the limits of North Attleborough. The repairs were made by individuals, and about 1872.

to the crown of our Sovereign Lord George the 3d. And after all this, shall we be conjugated, enslaved and ruined? Fathers, provoke not your children to wrath lest they be discouraged on the one hand, and encouraged on the other. We esteem our privileges tantamount to our lives, and the loss of them death in consequence; and since there is no new discovered America for us to flee to, we are almost ready to think that we will let go our plough-shares and pruning hooks to be malleated on the anvil, and not give up our dear-bought privileges to any Power on earth.

And now in a few words to say what our privileges are and wherein they are violated: We think that our privileges take their rise merely from nature. As we emigrated from our mother country at our own expense and without any charge to the Crown of Great Britain, our subjection to the Crown of Great Britain must be considered as an act of our own election. How far that subjection was made and in what manner the British government can possibly reach over the Atlantic to have any influence at all upon us, is known only by the stipulation between us and the king of Great Britain, expressed in our Charter. Although it be allowed that any Plantation settled by the order and expense of any State remains naturally subjected to that State, yet that not having been the case in our departure from Great Britain we utterly disallow any right of government over us but what is expressed in our Charter. We have no natural and necessary connection with the Crown in point of government but what springs from our own choice, and that choice can be known but by the stipulation aforesaid which both expresseth and limiteth the subjection which was our choice. This, we apprehend, is the true and just state of our privileges, as they are interested in the present controversy. So that, whatever act of government is exercised contrary to, or not expressly provided for in the Charter, is an open infringement of our privileges.

The appointment of a Governor altogether independent on us, and who, according to the present state of things, can be under no influence from our interest but whose personal interest may naturally put him to the utter overthrow of our whole interest,—we apprehend this to be an infraction of our Charter rights and privileges. The appointment of Judges from home, if true, or the maintenance of them independent upon us and dependent entirely upon the Crown, we think an infringement upon our Charter rights, and which tends to corrupt and destroy the very essence of our privileges.—The parting our money among a set of men of no use to us or the community, without our consent, is a bold and unjust infringement upon our privileges.—The subjecting civil cases to trial by Court of Admiralty instead of Juries, and especially the taking from us the right of trying capital cases in any articles, and carrying our brethren, on suspicion of guilt, from all who are acquainted with their character, or who can possibly do them justice, and ordering them to be transported, at almost infinite expense three thousand miles for trial, is a most barbarous, unjust, and unconstitutional affair, and as cruel as the ostrich.

Sept. 12, 1774. The town chose a committee to join with the committees of the other towns in this county “to consult the safety and peace and prosperity thereof, as well as the whole government and continent, upon any emergency.” The committee consisted of five: namely, Mr. Edward Richards, Dea. Eben. Lane, Capt. John Daggett, Lieut. Moses Wilmarth, and Mr. Elisha May. This was the first committee of safety chosen in this town. The practice of choosing such a committee was continued till the close of the Revolution.

Sept. 29, 1774. Captain John Daggett was chosen “Representative to the General Court” at Salem, and Dea. Eben. Lane, as “a committee man to join the Provincial Congress to be holden at Concord on the second Tuesday of October next.”

Dec. 6, 1774. The town established a “Superior and an Inferior Court to hear and determine controversies that have arisen or may arise in this town.”

Five men were chosen to serve as superior judges, namely, Dea Eben Lane, first justice, Col. John Daggett, second, Capt. John Stearns, third, Capt. Moses Wilmarth, fourth, and Dea. Bezuch Mann, fifth. Seven were appointed inferior judges, namely, Mr. Edward Richards, Lieut. Ebenezer Wilmarth, Capt. Jacob Ide, Capt. Stephen Richardson, Mr. Elisha May, Capt. John Tyler, and Mr. William Stanley. At the same time it was voted, "that we will comply with, stand to, and abide by the Resolves, Instructions and Directions of the Continental and Provincial Congresses," and that "all persons who refuse to comply with them shall be treated as *Intemperate Persons*."

It was also voted to choose "a committee of Inspection to inquire and give notice of all persons who shall presume to make use of any *Tulip Tea* after the first of March next, and the names of the men chosen for said committee are as follows: (viz.) Ephraim Newell, Capt. Henry Sweet, Benjamin Tingroy, Mayhew Daggett, Enoch Robinson, Amariah Tingroy, John Fryer, Jr., Nath. Bishop, Alexander Foster, Wm. Atwell, Jabez Gay, Levi Maxcy, Caleb Richardson." The "affair of the chest of tea at Capt. Richardson's, was left discretionary with the Selectmen."

These were no half-way measures, and were supported throughout with the same resolution.

January 2, 1775. Chose Colonel John Daggett "to represent us at the Congress to be holden at Cambridge on the 1st of February next, and to serve in that capacity until the month of May next, or until the time fixed for the dissolution of said Congress." At the same time a committee of thirteen was chosen to procure "subscriptions for the relief of the suffering poor in the town of Boston." At a meeting lawfully warned for May 16, 1775, the warrant was issued "By request of the Provincial Congress."

May 24, 1775. Captain John Stearns was chosen to represent the town at the Provincial Congress to be held in the meetinghouse at Watertown the 31st instant. The Committee of Correspondence this year were Deacon Eben. Lane, Doctor Mann, and Captain Moses Wilmarth.

July 10, 1775. Captain John Stearns was elected representative to the General Court to be held at Watertown the 19th instant.

March 19, 1776. The Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety were Deacon Lane, Edward Richards, Capt. S. Richardson, Lieut. Alexander Foster, Ens. Noah Fuller, William Stanley, Capt. Wilmarth, Eben. Tiffany, Samuel Atherton, Thomas Starkey, Ebenezer Wilmarth, Nathaniel Bishop, and Capt. Jacob Ide.

May 22, 1776. Captain John Stearns, Representative. At his request, a committee, consisting of Capt. Elisha May, Capt. Stephen Richardson, Rev. Peter Thacher, Levi Maxcy, and Lieut. Alexander Foster, was chosen to draw

up instructions for the representative. They made a report, from which extracts are given:—

CAPTAIN JOHN STEARNS.

Sir.—The town, reposing special confidence in your ability and integrity, have chosen you their representative at the Great and General Court for this year. At your request we take the liberty to suggest the following things to your attention as matters of great importance:

If the Continental Congress should think it best to declare for Independency of Great Britain, we unanimously desire you for us to engage to defend them therein with our lives and fortunes.¹

The fortifying and sufficiently providing for the defence of all our seaport towns, especially the Metropolis of this Colony, is of such consequence as that parsimony or delay therein will be the worst of policy. We apprehend that the raising of soldiers for the defence of the Colony is retarded, and so rendered both more chargeable and less useful, for want of sufficient bounty to encourage enlistments; that the raising fewer forces at such a time than is necessary, which scatters the officers with whom whoever enlists will desire to be acquainted is a like hindrance to a speedy raising of forces.

Having heard a motion hath been made for paying representation out of the Publick chest, we think is unequal and expect you will oppose it. The charge of the selectmen in the service of the public hath been unequal in respect of the poor of Boston, and other matters in different towns, and therefore ought to be born by the publick. If the Continental Congress should declare for Independency we desire in the new regulation the probate and register office be lodged in each town.

Other things in general we refer to your wisdom and fidelity, unless some special difficulty should occur, in which case you will please take our minds as occasion shall serve.

At the same time it was voted that the selectmen should order the money out of the treasury to pay the minute-men who marched on the alarm occasioned by the battle at Bunker Hill.

July 6, 1776. “Voted to raise the Bounty from £3, to £12, for the soldiers this town is to furnish to go to New York.”

October 11, 1776. “To Mr. Ephraim Newell, Town Treasurer, Greeting. This comes to order you to pay to Col. John Daggett twenty four pounds five shillings for his attendance and travel at the Congress in ye year 1774–75 — ninety seven days at five shillings per day.” Eighty-seven men were paid six shillings each “for marching on the alarm occasioned by the battle at Bunker Hill.” Order dated July 5, 1776.

The warrant for this October meeting was for the first time “In the name of the Stat and People of Massachusetts Bay, in Newingland,” and this or “Government and People of Massachusetts Bay” was the form for some years. Previous to this time the warrants had been issued in “His Majesty’s Name,” or “Province of Massachusetts Bay.”

January 27, 1777. Voted to raise the bounty for the soldiers who went

¹ This seems to have been conceived in something of that holy ardor, that sublime spirit of patriotism and self-devotion, which—in a few months after—dictated those ever memorable words in the closing sentence of the Declaration of Independence, —“We pledge our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor,”—immortal words, which sent such a thrill to the hearts of our countrymen and inspired them with such an unconquerable enthusiasm in the cause of freedom’

to New York in July last, 10 forty dollars for each man, & to such as will take it."

March 18, 1777. The Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety this year were Eli. Richards, Carol Carpenter, Samuel Tiffany, Jr., Elisha May, and Nathan Tyler.

April 2, 1777. A meeting was held "to see if the town will give some encouragement to the soldiery to enlist on property of the thirteen settlements granted by this State to join the Continental army." A committee was chosen to report upon the subject, and also to state what was an average on the whole since the war commenced, who reported that the bounty and wages given by Congress and our town afforded a sufficient encouragement for the first year's service; that for the second year the town allow two pounds per month in addition to the wages, and the same for the last year. Twenty-four pounds in addition to the bounty instead of the addition to their wages was offered to those who might prefer it. The committee also reported that the eight months' men, or those who went into service in consequence of Lexington battle, have no allowance; that the six weeks' and two months' men have no allowance; that the year's men be allowed ten pounds per man; that the Dorchester men have no allowance; that the men raised for two months in September, 1776, be allowed seven pounds per man; that the men raised for the northern or Canada expedition be allowed ten pounds per man; that the quarter men, or those raised for Howland's Ferry, be allowed six pounds per man.

May 22, 1777. Chose Captain John Stearns and Mr. William Stanley representatives. Appointed a committee to prepare instructions to said representatives, namely, Rev. Peter Thacher, Capt. Elisha May, Col. John Daggett, Capt. Moses Wilmarth, Mr. Levi Maxcy. Their report, it appears, is not recorded.

Excused Capt. May from serving on Committee of Correspondence, &c. and elected Stephen Fuller in his room. Voted to enlarge said committee, and added Zephariah Bishop, Jacob Cushman, and John Sweetland.

The town expenses for this year were £1,922 old money.

January 12, 1778. A committee consisting of Rev. Mr. Thacher, Capt. Elisha May, Col. Stephen Richardson, Deacon Stanley, Capt. Caleb Richardson, Lieut. Edmund Wilmarth, and Mr. John Wilburson was chosen to prepare instructions to the representatives of the town, relative to the Articles of Confederation. They presented a report which was accepted. It shows how perfectly convinced at that time our forefathers were of the value and importance of a firm union of the States to the well-being of the whole people.

To show the sentiments of the people a few extracts are given:—

"The undersigned, being chosen a committee, to consider what instructions to give our representatives to give such representations relative to the Articles of Confederation and Preamble

Union which are proposed to the consideration of the Legislatures of all the United States as the basis thereof forever," and also "relative to the Resolves of the most Honorable Congress, of the 7th and 22d of November last," having maturely considered the said Articles and Resolves do humbly offer the following to the consideration of the town on this very important subject :

To Messrs. John Stearns, and William Stanley Representatives of the town of Attleborough, Gentlemen,

We shall rejoice at the arrival of the happy hour when the Independent States of North America have a Union established upon equitable terms to continue as long as the sun and moon endure. We are sensible of the utility and necessity of such a union to our present exertions and the success of them, as well as for the strength and flourishing condition of these States hereafter. We would, therefore, be as distant as possible from offering anything to obstruct the speedy accomplishment of a thing so desirable; yet we are constrained to desire explanation of the 4th paragraph in the 5th Article which determines, that, in deciding questions in the United States in Congress assembled, each State shall have one vote, which, if it exclude a voice in Congress proportioned to the number or estate of the different States, we apprehend, would be very unequal and not to be by any means consented unto, etc.

After stating specific objections to some other articles, the report concludes: "With the foregoing emendations and explanations, we desire you to use your endeavors that the Delegates in Congress be empowered to ratify the aforesaid Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union. As to the Resolves of the most Hon'ble Congress, we only observe upon the 5th and 6th Resolves that the Regulating Bill formerly enacted and since repealed, though framed with an honest and good design, yet was, as we apprehend, very injurious to the good and honest people of this State, and was of no use to restrain oppressors and monopolizers, but rather put an advantage of oppression into their hands, and was a great means of sinking the value of our money, and, therefore, we expect and desire you to oppose the carrying of the said resolutions into execution.

At the same meeting a committee was appointed to draft a petition, which was sent to the General Court, earnestly praying for the repeal of an Act calling in the Bills of Credit, or State Money. In this petition the people expressed their fears of the consequences which would result from that Act to the interests of the poor, etc., in the following words: —

To the Great and General Assembly of the State of Massachusetts Bay. Gent^l™.

A petition by the inhabitants of the town of Attleborough most humbly sheweth, — Though at the eleventh hour, we beg leave as friends to the good people of this State to express our concern for an Act to draw in the Bills of Credit of the several denominations in this State. Notwithstanding the address of the House of Representatives to the good people of this State setting forth the necessity of calling in the Bills of Credit, and the difficulty of calling them in any other way, and notwithstanding this and many other plausible pretences in said address, we cannot but be concerned for a future day — the putting said money into notes on interest is the least of our concern; but as it is the intention of the Assembly of this State and the Continental Congress to bring down the price of labor and produce perhaps five (or) six parts; — Consequently said notes must double five times the value they were took for beside the interest, — whether will it be easier for the poor to pay said money when a day's work will pay eight shillings, or in a year or two when to have a day's labor pay two shillings — It seems to be implied in said address, that the rich and ill disposed persons in this State have got such advantage of the poor that there is no remedy the poor must suffer — Let that be granted it is not policy in our opinion to crush the poor at this day if it be possible to avoid it till America has obtained her freedom, for if this Continent must be defended and set at liberty by arms the poor must do it for the lowest capacity must be sensible that a man that has by monopoly got these increasing notes will never enter into the service of his country for the little or nothing encouragement that soldiers have at present or if the Court intend to hold the levies by draft from the Militia, as seems intended in the case a rich man does no more than a poor man — his estate does nothing.

Our monthly meeting is that said Act be repealed, or some amendment be made. We have waited a long time to know that you would repeal that Act without any standing army, with petitions but as we have hitherto been disappointed we are obliged to submit to ourselves and to our partners, annually, the petition for a speedy repeal of that Act. We suggest now the names, EPHRAIM ALLEN, JR. and DANIEL TITMUS, as persons who are well known to you, and who are well qualified to attend to the duties of that office.

Attleborough, Jan. 16th, 1778.

Nathaniel Boring,
Daniel Titmus,
William Brown,
Thomas Statham,
Daniel Richardson,
John Richardson,
Moses Tenny.

March 17, 1778. The Committee of Correspondence, &c., were Ebenezer Wilburth, Ebenezer Tiffany, and Ephraim Allen, Jr.

The declaration that all men are born "free and equal" appears to have had a speedy practical effect in at least one instance in our town, as may be seen by the following extract from the records:—

"To all People to whom these Presents shall Come Greeting: Know all men that for Divers Good Causes and Considerations I have Sent at Liberty and Given unto my Servant = Warrack a Negro man his freedom to be for him self and Do hereby Certifie that I have no more Demands on him for any Further service —

Attleborough, March 17th, 1778

John Sweetland.

Signed in the Presence of us

Witnesses,

Elisha May,

Richard Ellis, Jr."

May 12, 1778. "Voted to pay thirty pounds to each soldier who shall enlist in the Continental army, to complete the number (fifteen) required of this town, by a late resolve of the General Court." Also voted to give thirty pounds more as a bounty.

May 21, 1778. The committee chosen at a former meeting to consider the "Constitution" lately submitted to the people, not agreeing upon a report, the town appointed another committee of seven; namely, Rev. P. Thacher, Rev. Hattajah Wadl, Elder Job Scammins, Deot. Boddell Martin, Col. John Dargrett, Col. Stephen Richardson, and Capt. John Stearns, who finally made a report. The vote in town stood 31 affirmative and 16 negative.

March 16, 1779. The Committee of Safety were Capt. Caleb Richardson, John Damon, Elijah Wellman.

April 5, 1779 there appears an order to Daniel Titmus for the "sum of ten

¹ That was the first form of government submitted to the people of this State. It was framed by a committee from the 17th Co. And by a committee chosen after the Declaration of Independence.

pounds ten shillings, it being due to him for carting soldier's packs to Howland's Ferry in Sept. 1777, it being thirty five miles."

May 1, 1779, the town was assessed £2083 17. 6d, and for the expenses for the year £10,000 was to be raised — old money.

May 18, 1779. Elisha May, Esq., was chosen representative. "Voted to empower our representative to vote for the calling of a convention for the sole purpose of framing a new constitution."

June 21, 1779. Voted to raise thirteen soldiers — to serve nine months — as this town's proportion of the fifteen battalions furnished by this State to fill up the Continental army, and a committee of five was chosen to engage these men on the best terms possible. On the question of having a new constitution there were 121 votes in favor, and none in the negative recorded.

August 2, 1779. This town sent three members to the convention which formed the present "Constitution of Massachusetts."

"Chose Col. John Daggett, Capt. John Stearns, and Major Elisha May to attend the Convention¹ at Cambridge, on the first of September next for the sole purpose of framing a new Constitution."

The town then took into consideration the proceedings of the convention held at Concord for regulating articles of merchandise and country produce, and voted unanimously to accept the doings of said convention, "and to conform ourselves to the proposed regulations."

"Chose Col. Stephen Richardson, Mr. Levi Maxcy, and Mr. Edward Richards members of the convention to be held at Concord, on the first Wednesday of October next."

March 21, 1780. The Committee of Safety were David Richardson, Capt. Moses Wilmarth, and William Morse.

May 2, 1780. The new "Constitution" was referred to a committee.

June 14, 1780. "Voted to raise twenty-nine soldiers for six months, as this town's quota, to re-inforce the Continental army, according to a Resolve of the General Court of June 5th, 1780." They were to be paid by a tax on the town.

Sept. 4, 1780. "Voted to raise £12,000 pounds to defray the expenses of the town the current year. Also voted to raise £1,400 hard money to pay the soldiers who may engage to serve in the army for three and for six months, according to resolves of the General Court of June 5th, 22d, and 23d."

Oct. 16, 1780, the town levied a tax of £24,000, to procure 14,000 weight of beef required of the town by a resolve of the General Court. On the 24th the town had raised £16,800 — old money.

Elisha May, Esq., was chosen representative the two following years,

¹ This convention met at the meetinghouse in Cambridge, September, 1779, continued till the 7th, and then adjourned to October 28th, then met and continued till November 11th, and adjourned to January 5th, 1780, at the Representatives' Chamber, Boston, then met and continued till March 24, and adjourned to June 7th; then met and continued till June 16th, when it was dissolved.

which brings us to the close of the Revolution. There were no transactions of particular interest relating to the war during these two years, though the few following extracts from the records may prove worthy of notice:—

January 31, 1781. "Voted to class the inhabitants of said town for the purpose of raising twenty seven men for three years or during the war, agreeable to the recommendation of the General Court, the vote of said town of the 24th of January to the contrary notwithstanding." This was reconsidered.

February 26, 1781. "Voted the sum of 3000 dollars laid money for the purpose of raising men for three years; then voted that the selectmen should give their notes to such soldiers as will be willing to receive them; and that they give money to pay the remainder." A transaction quite similar to many of the present generation, and its soldiers of the civil war.

The warrant for the annual town meeting for 1781, bearing date March 20th of that year, is the first one found on the records in which the "Congress" comes in in the Name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Doubtless some of the warrants during the preceding year were thus issued, but they are not recorded. As we have seen, three men from this town were members of the congress which framed and adopted the State Constitution, with the following introductory words:—"The people inhabiting the territory commonly called the Province of Massachusetts Bay, do hereby solemnly and mutually agree with each other, to form themselves into a body politic, or state, by the name of the COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS."

MILITARY SERVICES.

To furnish a full statement of the military services which the citizens of this town rendered during the Revolutionary war is not, perhaps, possible at this day. But some general accounts may be collected which will afford a tolerable view of their services.

It appears from the following anecdote that they were not slow in acting up to the resolutions which they had adopted.

In December, 1774, the Committee of Safety gave notice that one Nathan Aldis, a tory, who lived in Franklin, Mass., was selling British goods contrary to the resolutions of the General Court. Colonel John Daggett, of this town, a determined and resolute patriot, immediately issued orders to the several companies of the town to furnish a certain number of men, who being collected, marched, in a bitter cold night, for the place of Aldis' residence, to put a stop to his business. They were joined on the way by volunteers from the neighboring towns. They arrived late at night, and surrounding his house ordered him out. He and his associates who had assembled to defend him at first attempted to resist with arms, threatening to fire upon them from the windows and, assuming a tone of confidence, ordered them to depart. Upon this the besiegers were directed to point their guns towards the house. Finding that his opponents were in earnest and that threats could

not intimidate them, Aldis at last came out. He was ordered *to pull off his hat*, while in the presence of the people's soldiers. Here, before the whole company, he was compelled to enter into an engagement not to "vend any more British goods during the present unhappy controversy between the King and his colonies." The prisoner was then released. The next morning he fled to Boston, and was never after known in these parts.

The captains from this town who were engaged in this adventure were Capt. S. Richardson, of the Northeast Company; Capt. Moses Wilmarth, Southeast Company; Capt. Jacob Ide, Southwest Company; and Capt. Jonathan Stanley, Northwest Company.

From a "return of the several Militia Company's in the Fourth Regiment in the County of Bristol," it appears that John Daggett was Colonel; Ephraim Lane, Lieut. Colonel; Isaac Dean, First Major; and Elkanah Clapp, Second Major. There were in Captain Ide's company, "fifty-three, including officers: forty-seven equipped according to law." In Captain Richardson's minute-company, "sixty-one including officers: fifty-eight of which are equipped according to law; twenty with bayonets" (of the fifty-eight). In Captain Stanley's company, "fifty-five including officers: whereof forty-seven are equipped according to law." In Captain Wilmarth's minute-company, "fifty-six, whereof forty-eight are equipped according to law," making a total of two hundred and twenty-five men from this town, besides the commander. The other captains in the regiment were Benjamin Mory, Abial Clapp, Job Hodges, Jabez Ellis,¹ and William Stone. These captains and their companies were from Mansfield, Norton, and Easton. There were also "four companies of minute-men, including officers: two hundred and twelve: but not yet incorporated into a regiment." The names of the captains of these companies are not given, but they seem to have been for a time in Colonel Daggett's regiment, or under his command.

The "return" closes as follows: —

The number of training soldiers in the said regiment is six hundred and twenty-four; two companies of which I have not as yet been able to obtain the returns of their reviewing, but may soon be returned.

To the Honorable Provincial Congress at Concord assembled.

from your

humble servant,

John Daggett, Col. of

said regiment.

ASSONETT EXPEDITION.

Information having been received from the vigilant Committees of Safety that the British had made a deposit of arms and ammunition at Assonett village — Freetown — for the use of the loyalists, Colonel Daggett, of this town, on the 9th of April, 1775, undertook an expedition for the purpose of seizing these arms and breaking up the combination which had been formed to favor the royal cause. He was accompanied by the several companies from this town, with their captains, — as before named, except Elisha May in the room of Jonathan Stanley, — and by some of the militia from Rehoboth and other towns. How many others were concerned in the adventure is not known.

They discovered forty stands of arms and equipments in the possession of the Tories, together with a large quantity of ammunition, the whole of which

¹ Captain Ellis was doubtless from this town also.

was taken to the patriots. All who were suspected of favoring the British interest were required to swear not to bear arms against their country. Nine stout Tories, who refused to take the oath of fidelity to the colonies, were made prisoners and put under the charge of the company from East Athol, Leverage, and Southwick marched to Tarrant. Here their captors threatened to convey them to Sullivan's mines in Connecticut if they would not comply. To avoid this alternative they at last submitted and took the oath of allegiance to their country. They were then dismissed.

This victory, it is said, was almost entirely bloodless. One stubborn Tory who refused to remove his hat out of respect to a liberty pole had it knocked off by the butt end of some soldier's musket, and a gash cut in his head.

This expedition deserves commemoration from the circumstance of its having been accomplished previous to the commencement of open hostilities in any other part of the country. It preceded, a few days, the first scene in the great drama which opened on the plains of Lexington. It was appearing in arms, though on a comparatively small scale, against the royal government. The patriots expected resistance, and were prepared with sufficient force to meet it.

One writer says: "Reports at the time estimated the number of patriots who then assembled at Assonet as two thousand men, but that was probably an overestimate, and yet, whether overestimated or not, the stubborn fact remains that at Assonet village in Freetown, instead of Lexington, the great drama of the American Revolution was opened. Because Assonet has suffered wrong in this matter for a hundred and ten years, is no reason that this wrong shall continue to be done forever, nor will it, for truth is so mighty that it will ultimately prevail." It is a matter in which we may justly take great pride—that our town took so prominent a part in this occurrence.

The company of minute-men, SIXTY in number, under the command of Captain Jabez Ellis.—Enoch Robinson, lieutenant,—on the day of the battle of Lexington received orders to march instantly to Roxbury.

"We set out at night,¹ stopped a short time at Maxey's, now Hatch's tavern, then went directly to Dedham, where we found two tables by the roadside generously provided with food for the soldiers who might pass that way, thus arranged to prevent any unnecessary delay. We snatched a hasty breakfast and marched on, reached Roxbury about daylight, and were then marched round and round Roxbury meetinghouse, to make as much show of numbers as possible in view of the British. Our company remained there seven or eight days, and then were permitted to return home."

Of one of these soldiers an anecdote was current among the survivors of that day for many years. One Henry Richardson, of this town, a bold and honest but headless fellow, on his way to Roxbury swore he would have one

¹ This circumstance was also given in regard to the capture of the prisoners.

of the red-coats before he went back. On his arrival at headquarters, the moment he had opportunity he charged his long musket and, not thinking with Falstaff that "discretion is the better part of valor," coolly marched down in front of our lower guard and taking deliberate aim at the opposite British sentinel discharged his musket and badly wounded him, as his companions were seen to lead him off the ground and his place was supplied by another. Much to his astonishment, our hero was immediately arrested (for doing, as he thought, so good a service) and put under guard, but on the representations of his friends was soon after discharged without further punishment, in consideration of his *good intentions*. On meeting afterwards one of his townsmen, he exclaimed with exultation: "There, I told you I'd have one of them 'ere British rascals!"

The same company went down to Roxbury the day of Bunker Hill battle and stayed about a fortnight. "While there a small party of us," said one of them, "went round to the Cambridge side to look at the British, but soon the captain of a fort called out to us, that we had better not go in company, for the enemy would see us and fire at us: and sure enough, in a minute or two, a cannon ball came whizzing along close by us, and soon after, they sent us a bomb."

May 1, 1775. A company of sixty-four men enlisted for eight months under Captain Caleb Richardson in the Massachusetts line, so called, and were stationed at Roxbury.

July, 1776. Another company, principally from this town, enlisted for five months in the recruits called the "New Levies," under Captain Caleb Richardson and Stephen Richardson (lieutenant), — both of Attleborough, — in the regiment of Colonel Cary, of Middleborough, under Brigadier-General Fellowes, and did duty in and about New York, and were at the disastrous retreat from Long Island, etc. Captain Moses Wilmarth, though he had served as a captain at home, yet from a spirit of patriotism entered the service as a private soldier in the expedition to New York. He was afterwards promoted and continued, much attached to the service, during the war. Joel Read,¹ of this town, was wounded at New York. Some of the other members of this company were from the neighboring towns.

September, 1776. Another company was raised — part from Attleborough and part from Norton — under Captain Elisha May, of this town, in the regiment of Colonel Thomas Carpenter, of Rehoboth, and arrived at White Plains before the battle.

¹ He was a musical composer, published three "Singing Books," and was the author of several tunes which still live in our churches. His works were published in connection with his brother, Daniel N. Warren. See in *Read Genealogy*, p. 252, sketch of his nephew Ezra, who, in connection with Alden Bradford, had the honor of first publishing the immortal works of Walter Scott, "the great Wizard of the North," this side of the Atlantic. He was living in 1834 when the author's first "Sketch" was published.

In October, 1777, a whole company from this town marched to Rhode Island under Captain Stephen Richardson and served one month in Spencer's "Secret Expedition," so called.

Several men from this town were drafted in the expedition against Ticonderoga in 1776, who served also at Saratoga.

Some of our soldiers enlisted for three years, and others during the war.

The above accounts do not include the many individual enlistments into the Continental army from this town during the war.

MILITIA. — RHODE ISLAND.

The militia in this town and the vicinity were subject to frequent drafts of men (more or less) from December, 1776, until after the evacuation of Rhode Island. Drafts were made in January, February, March, May, June, July, and August, 1777, and at many other times. The men were stationed the most of the time at Howland's Ferry (Tiverton) and at Wawoon.

The British took possession of Rhode Island in December, 1776, and kept the surrounding country in a continual state of alarm. They occupied it above two years.

General Sullivan during his expedition to Rhode Island requested the government of Massachusetts to send him a reinforcement in consequence of the French forces having abandoned him. In compliance with this request the following orders were issued by the Council of this State, directing Colonel Daggett of the Fourth Regiment (including therein, as still in 1834, Atholborough, Marshfield, Norton, and Easton) to take charge of the detachment.

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS, BAY.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, AUG. 18th, 1778.

Whereas Major General Sullivan has represented to this Board that he is in want of the services of the Fourth Regt., which he requested would cooperate with him in going to assist Fort Mifflin, &c.

Ordered, That the following officers, to wit, being now attached to, and serving from their respective Regiments the several companies of said Fourth Regiment, and being then 17th, consisting of forty-eight men, viz. the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22d, 23d, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32d, 33d, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42d, 43d, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52d, 53d, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62d, 63d, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72d, 73d, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82d, 83d, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92d, 93d, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102d, 103d, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122d, 123d, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132d, 133d, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142d, 143d, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 150th, 151st, 152d, 153d, 154th, 155th, 156th, 157th, 158th, 159th, 160th, 161st, 162d, 163d, 164th, 165th, 166th, 167th, 168th, 169th, 170th, 171st, 172d, 173d, 174th, 175th, 176th, 177th, 178th, 179th, 180th, 181st, 182d, 183d, 184th, 185th, 186th, 187th, 188th, 189th, 190th, 191st, 192d, 193d, 194th, 195th, 196th, 197th, 198th, 199th, 200th, 201st, 202d, 203d, 204th, 205th, 206th, 207th, 208th, 209th, 210th, 211st, 212d, 213th, 214th, 215th, 216th, 217th, 218th, 219th, 220th, 221st, 222d, 223d, 224th, 225th, 226th, 227th, 228th, 229th, 230th, 231st, 232d, 233d, 234th, 235th, 236th, 237th, 238th, 239th, 240th, 241st, 242d, 243d, 244th, 245th, 246th, 247th, 248th, 249th, 250th, 251st, 252d, 253d, 254th, 255th, 256th, 257th, 258th, 259th, 260th, 261st, 262d, 263d, 264th, 265th, 266th, 267th, 268th, 269th, 270th, 271st, 272d, 273d, 274th, 275th, 276th, 277th, 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1778th, 1779th, 1780th, 1781st, 1782d, 1783d, 1784th, 1785th, 1786th, 1787th, 1788th, 1789th, 1790th, 1791st, 1792d,

Rhode Island, and served under the command of Colonel Daggett, of this town, during the remainder of the campaign. The company furnished by this town as its quota under this levy was commanded by Captain Caleb Richardson. It was on the island at the time of the battle, and was partially engaged in it. Two men from this town who had belonged to the Continental army were killed in that action; namely, Larned Hall and one John Dwyer (or Dyer), formerly of Rehoboth.

Colonel Daggett also commanded the regiment (of which this town furnished a portion) from Bristol county in Spencer's expedition. This regiment was supplied by alternate drafts from the companies in the northerly and middle parts of the county.

During the occupation of the island by the British, as before observed, the militia from all the towns in the vicinity were frequently called upon to defend the shore, as constant apprehensions were entertained that the enemy would attempt to land. Attempts were indeed often made, but as often failed. Orders would sometimes come for all the militia to appear at some place near the island. All hands would accordingly muster (whether by night or day), and make all haste for the scene of parade. They were sometimes thus detained a week, three weeks, and even six weeks at a time. On the appearance of a sufficient force the enemy would for the time relinquish their design, and the greater part of the militia obtain leave to go home. But sometimes before they arrived home orders would come for their immediate return. The yeomanry were thus often obliged to leave the plow in the furrow, the mown hay untouched, and the harvest rotting in the field.

ANECDOTE OF FAYETTE.

While Sullivan was retreating from the island, Fayette, who brought up the rear, just as he was leaving the field espied a pickaxe belonging to the American army which had been accidentally left on the ground. He instantly went back, dismounted, and picked it up, exclaiming in broken English as he rode off with it on his shoulder, "They sha'n't have de pickaxe!"¹

The cannonade, which was heavy, between the two armies, was distinctly heard and felt in this town, and produced extreme anxiety in every family.

The time of Bunker Hill battle was likewise a day of solemn feeling and fearful expectation. The cannonade was distinctly heard at this distance — thirty-five miles — and the occasion of it was fully recognized. It was so heavy as to shake the windows in the houses and the plates upon the shelves. The earth trembled as in the heaviest thunder. The town was almost deserted by all able to bear arms. Women were in tears for the fate of fathers, husbands, and brothers who had gone to the scene of action.

From the preceding account of the civil transactions and the military

¹ This anecdote was told the author by Dr. Billings, surgeon in the American army.

services of this town. It appears satisfactorily that our citizens furnished their full proportion to the ranks of the patriot army and did their duty faithfully in the day of trial.

In reviewing the proceedings in that contest which agitated the country previous to the commencement of the Revolution, one thing struck me as worthy of remark (though not particularly noticed by historians) : that the citizens of this State generally, the people as a body, felt a deeper interest, took a more active part, and exerted a more direct influence in the transactions of the day, than the *people* of any other State. The whole mass of our citizens seemed to be acting in concert, animated with one spirit and in pursuit of one object. Other States were indeed as zealously engaged in the great work, but it was rather through the legislature or the government than by the direct influence of the people. But the citizens of this State entrusted it not to a few leaders or to any body of men to vindicate their violated rights; they were willing to do their part and to bear the burden themselves. Every town and almost every individual felt it a duty to put forth an effort in the cause.

The following are the names of the men from this town who served in the army during the Revolution. They are taken from the " Muster Rolls " and " Pay Rolls of the Revolution," in the Secretary's Library in the State House, Boston, and the lists comprise probably *all* who served.¹

Muster Roll ² for the companies raised on account of the Alarm in April, 1775:

Moses Wilmarth, Captain.		Joseph French,	
Nathaniel Bishop, 1st Lt.		Jonathan Feltley,	
Oliver Richardson, 2d Lt.		Abner T. Hunt,	
Enoch Burrows,		Enoch Hunt,	
Francis Sweet,	Sgt.	Eliza Jones,	
Zachariah Bishop,		Asel Martin,	
Orlando Chamberlain,		Isaac Pease, (Paye),	
Daniel Wilmarth,	Cor.	Frederick Robinson,	
George Sweet,		Arnold Stearns,	
Abel Dearham, Drummer,		Wm. Starkey,	
Joseph Richardson, Fifer,		John T. Smith,	
Concord Moore,		Ephraim Tripp,	
Nathan Smith,		John Prior,	
Conner Brown,		Robert Tins,	
Nath. Cooper,		Benoni Wilmarth,	
Thomas Cooper,		Asa W. Wymouth,	
David C. Allen,		Moses Pike (Paye),	
John Foster,		David Feltley,	

Peter Thomsen.

and Company in 4th Regiment, and John Duggan.

¹ Upon review I found it best to leave these names after the Alarm's muster of the war — because they cannot certainly be said to have been prepared to — instead of attempting to give the companies, on ground of inconsistency. Doubt's after the celebration of the war, and there are many of them.

² See Mass. Hist. Coll., vol. 1, p. 109.

Caleb Richardson's Co.¹ in Col. Timothy Walker's Reg. April 24th to Aug. 1775 in service.

Caleb Richardson, Captain,	Zebulon Freeman,
Enoch Robinson, Lieut.	James Freeman,
Solomon Standly, Ensign.	Joseph Fuller,
John Robinson,	Rufus Gary,
Lemuel Whiting, } Ser.	Daniel Huse,
Daniel Richardson, }	Larned Hall,
John Tyler, }	Enoch Hunt,
Joel Read, }	Henry Joslin,
Joseph Sterns, } Cor.	Amos Jilson,
Gideon Sweet, }	Amaziah Jilson,
Eliphaz Healy, }	John Ide,
Stephen Richardson, Drummer,	Wm. Luce,
Caleb Richardson, Fifer,	Samuel Lusecomb,
Henry Alexander,	Comfort Martin,
Preserved Alger,	George Neal,
David Alverson,	Hezekiah Peck,
Gideon Bishop,	Benj. Richardson,
Comfort Bishop,	Benj. Stanley,
Jonathan Blackinton,	Nathaniel Sweet,
Abial Brown,	John Tiffany,
Joseph Cummings,	Noah Tiffany,
John Daggett,	Peter Thacher,
John Drown,	James Tripp,
Elijah Daggett,	Ephraim Tripp,
Abner Daggett,	Thomas Tiffany,
Samuel Draper,	Eben ^r Wilmarth,
Jeremiah Everet,	Moses Walcot,
Lemuel Everet,	Wm. Woodcock,
Penuel Everet,	Jonathan Woodcock,
Eben ^r Fuller,	Wm. Pilse.
Thomas Freeman,	Zephaniah Rose.

Men from town in Capt. Moses Knap's Co.² Col. Joseph Read's Reg. in service from Apr. 27th, to Aug. 1775.

Benj. Capron, 2d. Lieut.	Daniel Bolkecom,
Samuel Tiffany, } Cor.	Aaron Cutting,
Seth Richardson, }	Elijah Fisher,
Elias Bolkecom,	Thomas Norton,
David Bolkecom,	John Stearns, (Searns)
	Samuel Woodcock.

In Capt. James Perry's Co.³ in service Oct. 6, 1775.

Allines Claflin,	Benj. Read,
Aruna Shepardon,	John Sweet.

The following company of minute-men were called out Jan. 5th, 1776, and marched thirty-five miles.

Jabez Ellis, Capt.	Lemuel Everitt,
Samuel Robinson, 1st. Lt.	(illeg.) Fuller,
Elisha May, 1st. Lt.	„ Fuller,
Enoch Robinson, 2d. Lt.	„ Fuller,

¹ See *Mus. Rolls*, vol. 16, p. 12.
Rolls, vol. 56, p. 192.

² See *Mus. Rolls*, vol. 56, p. 113, and vol. 15, p. 47.

³ See *Mus.*

Geo. Robinson 2d Lt.
 Ben. Tupper
 Frank Daggett
 Lemuel Whiting
 Ezra Daggett
 Aaron Burrows
 Jerry Chase? (Hug.)
 Ephraim Howes
 Joseph Sterns
 Sam. Thayer, Drummer
 Henry Alexander
 John Alexander
 President Ayer
 Josiah Ayer
 Pauline Allen
 Samuel Bates
 Sam. Bissell (Hug.)
 Stephen Burrows? (Hug.)
 Sam. Blackinton
 Reuben Bates
 Nathan Bishop
 Oliver Blackinton
 Joseph Cummings
 Stephen Canfield (Hug.)
 Amos Carpenter
 Reuben Carpenter
 Ezekiel Carpenter
 (Hug.) Carpenter
 Elmer Draper
 Leonard Daggett
 (Hug.) Tins
 John Sweet
 Wm. Sweetland
 Solomon Stacey
 George Stacey
 Samuel Stacey
 Elisha Sprickland
 Henry Stacey
 Isaac Tracy
 Samuel Dagley
 Amos Dagley

Cor.

Jacob Gail
 Joseph Gail
 (Hug.) Robinson
 Captain Isaac Gail
 Nathan Tupper
 David Howes
 Daniel Howes
 Reuben Howes
 Ephraim Howes
 Jacob Ide
 Constant Ingraham
 Amos Ide
 Timothy Ide
 Alexander Fossett
 Wm. Lewis
 Henry Keith Lake
 Samuel Loomis
 Ben. Maxey
 Eben Maxey
 Samuel Nowell
 Josiah Pidge
 David Paine
 Wm. Pike
 Thomas Quimbley
 David Read
 Harvey Richardson
 David Richardson
 Ezekiel Robinson
 Joel Roach
 Jeremiah Roach
 Samuel Squire
 Eben Tiffany
 Nathaniel Woodcock
 Simon Whiting
 David Whiting
 Moses Wright
 Phineas Wright
 John P. Young
 Amos Daggett
 Elliphaiz Day
 Daniel Thayer

John Deane.

The following is Capt. Stephen Richardson's account of his command. At this special point they report themselves and their numbers.

Stephen Richardson, Capt.
 Alexander French, Lt.
 Michael Squire, Sergeant
 George Canfield
 Ephraim Chase
 Amos Dagley
 David Deane

Cor.

George Hull
 Thomas Horton
 John Robinson
 Thomas Richardson
 Ben. Richardson
 Sam. Robinson
 Zachariah Rose

John Robinson, }
 Joseph Foster, } Cor.
 Daniel Richardson, }
 Thomas Wilmarth, }
 Nathaniel Robinson, Drummer.
 Elijah Bolkeom, Fifer,
 Wm. Bolkeom.
 Benj. Capron,
 John Daggett, Jr.
 Peter Fisher,
 David Foster.
 Rufus Gavy,
 Comfort Martin,

Benj. Starkey,
 Nathaniel Sweet,
 Hoseah Tiffany,
 John Tiffany
 Noah Tiffany
 Samuel Tiffany,
 John Woodecock,
 Eben^r Wilmarth,
 Eliphalet Wilmarth,
 Amos Wilmarth,
 John Wilkinson,
 Jonathan Woodecock,
 Zachariah White.¹

Muster roll of Capt. Richardson's Co.² that marched into the State of Rhode Island — part of the militia of Attleborough — "to hold the line till men could be raised for two months for that purpose." It was completed Apr. 21st, 1777, and continued in service until May 25th, including time to travel home at twenty miles per day. The private's pay was £1 13s. 4d. each.

Stephen Richardson, Capt.

Enoch Robinson, Lieut.

Benj. Tingley, Lieut.

Wm. Sweetland, }
 Amos Ide, } Ser.
 Noah Tiffany, }
 Isaac Perry, }

Elijah Daggett, }
 Daniel Hews, } Cor.
 Hosea Tiffany, }
 Thomas French, }

Stephen Fuller, Drummer,

Benj. Willmarth, Fifer,

David Bolkeom,

Lamech Blanding,

Comfort Bates,

Jonathan Blackinton,

Othniel Blackinton,

Joseph Capron,

Wm. Carpenter,

David Cooper,

Daviny ? Daggett,

Solomon Dunham,

John Draper,

Joel Ellis,

Penuel Everit,

Levy Everit,

Wm. Tiffany.

Thos. French, Jr.

William Freeman,

Jabez Gay,

Isaac Ide.

Oliver Jillson.

Isaac Jackson,

Hezekiah Lane,

Hezekiah Peck,

Jesse Richards,

Noah Robinson,

Benj. Read.

Daniel Read,

Gideon Stanley,

George Starkey,

Bowin Sweetland,

Abel Titus,

Zelotis Tyler,

Eben^r Tyler,

Eben^r Tyler, Jr.

Hezekiah Tiffany,

Benj. Tripp,

James Tripp,

James Orn.

Silas Wood.

Jonathan Willmarth.

Amos Willmarth,

Benj. Woodecock.

List of Capt. Caleb Richardson's Co. in Col. Danforth's. Reg. for the bounty granted by the General Court June 27th, 1777, — the bounty being apparently £3 a month.

Noah Tiffany,
 Lawrence M. South,
 Samuel Munro,
 Noah Robinson.

Nehemiah Briggs,
 Abiah Fuller,
 John Caswell,
 John Emerson.

¹ See *Mus. Rolls*, vol. 13, p. 69. ² See *Mus. Rolls*, vol. 3, pp. 89 and 192.

Wm. Haines,
Isaac J. Readings,
Joseph H. Barker,
Daniel F. Lott,
Samuel C. Carpenter,
Lewis M. Smith,
Abel Pratt,
Charles F. Smith,
Elihu W. Adams,
Richard Carter,
Thomas H. Clark,
Benj. Macomber,
Elihu Jackson,
Lewis M. Smith,
Matthew Macomber,
Thomas Andrews,
Eben Root.

Abel Macomber,
Asa Goff,
Abel Goff,
Samuel Rose,
Hosea T. Tibbels,
Levi Carpenter,
Elisha Hall,
Benjamin Adams,
Isaac Jackson,
Caleb Richardson, Jr.,
Abiel Tripp,
Zechariah Tibbels,
Samuel Freeman,
Ben Sweetland,
Ben Pratt,
Sylvester Lockon,
Samuel Hoskins.

Preserved Hoskins.

A list of the company that marched from this town on a secret expedition under the command of Col. Geo. Williams, from Sept. 25th, to Oct. 29th, 1777, one month and six days, including two days for return home. Captain's name not given.

Josh Read,
Hosea Tibbels,
Ephraim Hoskins,
Asa Root, Sheparison,
Eben' Dunham, Drummer,
Isaac Bates,
Samuel Barrows,
Comfort Barrows,
Thomas Barrow,
Elihu Barrow,
Elihu Barrow,
Oliver Blackinton,
Comfort Bates,
Dennis Readings,
Joseph Rogers,
William Barrows,
Joseph Carpenter,
Joseph Carpenter,
Daniel Chaffin,
Zechariah Cutting,
David Cooper,
Leamond Day,
Wm. Carpenter,
Isaac Druggett,
Nathaniel Drown,
Joseph Druggett,
David Druggett,
Solomon Dunham,
Joel Ellis,
Noah Fuller,

Ser.

Daniel Hows,
Thomas Tibbels,
Herbert Mott,
Thomas French,
Benj. Wilmarth, Fifer,
Nathaniel Jillson,
Daniel Lane,
Comfort Moore,
Job Martin,
James Orn,
Levi Tibbels,
James Tibbels,
Caleb Parm(en)ter,
Isaac Pratt,
Wm. Pulling,
Dennis Root,
Ephraim Root,
Thomas Richardson,
Seth Richardson,
Zechariah Rose,
Michel Riley,
Hart. Richardson,
Jonathan Read,
Joseph Stearns,
Benjamin Smith,
Amos Starkey,
Thomas Stearns,
Daniel Stanley,
Samuel Stanley,
Clark Sweetland,
Stephen Sweetland,

Cor.

Samuel Fuller.
Abial Fisher,
Eben^r Fuller,
Jonathan Fuller,
Thomas French, Jr.
Ebenezer Guild,
Amos Ide,
George Ide,
Isaac Ide,
Elijah Jones,
Oliver Jillson,

Zebadiah Sweet.
John Tiffany,
Ephraim Tripp,
Benj. Tripp,
Philip Thare, (Thayer?)
Abisha Town,
Ebenezer Tyler,
Elijah Wellman,
Eliphlet Wilmarth,
Benj. Woodcock,
Jesse Ide,

Daniel Tiffany.

Capt. Sam. Robinson's company¹ of militia raised for twenty-one days, for duty in Col. Wade's regiment, from July 21st, 1778. Other members of this company were from adjoining towns.

Sam. Robinson, Capt.
Wm. Sweetland, Ser.
Jacob Frieze,
Daniel Claffin, } Cor.
William Thomas, }
Benj. Wilmarth, Fifer,
Philip Allen,
Othniel Blackinton,
David Bolkeom,
Benj. Barrows,
Nathaniel Bowen,
William Carpenter, 2d.
Asa Daggett,
Darius Daggett,
Abial Dunham,
Alex. Foster,

Lumy Foster.
Abial Freeman,
William Foster.
Eben^r Guild,
John Gooding,
George Ide,
Edward Richards,
Noah Robinson,
Obed Robinson,
Joel Read,
John Sweetland,
Bowen Sweetland,
Eben^r Tyler,
Jonathan Wilmarth,
Stephen Wilmarth,
Eben^r Wellman,

Machael Sweet.

Capt. Alex. Foster's company,² in Col. Thomas Carpenter's regiment from the Mass. Bay, in the campaign at Rhode Island, from July 27th to Aug. 12th, 1778, including time to return home. Service for seventeen days, "Due for the time of service and travel, to each private, £2. 16s. 8d." The Courts provided additional wages £5 per month.

Alex. Foster, Capt.
William Swetland, Lieut.
Daniel Richardson, Lieut.
Thomas Sweet,
David Woodcock, } Ser.
Eliphalet Holmes, }
Levi Stanley, Drummer,
Ephraim Allen,
Christopher Bowing,
Simon Barrows,
Jacob Bates,
Benjamin Blackington,
Noah Blanding,
Solomon Bates,
William Carpenter,

Joseph Foster,
Daniel Wilmarth, } Cor.
Daniel Hews, }
Samuel Guild, }
George Hely, Fifer,
Phillip Allen, Private,
Philbrook Barrows,
Ichabod Ide,
Levi Gilson,
Levi Ide,
Joel Metcalf,
Herbert Mann,
Daniel Martin,
James Orne,
Henry Peck,

¹ See *Mus. Rolls*, vol. 3, p. 106.

² See *Mus. Rolls*, vol. 2, p. 21.

Nichols, *Commander*,
 Ross, *Captain*,
 Joseph Canning,
 David Cummings,
 John Duggitt,
 John Duggitt,
 Anne Duggitt,
 Joel Eves,
 David Eves,
 Joseph Eves,
 Thomas Eves,
 James Gault,
 Samuel Holmes,
 David Hunt,
 George Lee,
 Isaac Lee.

Isaac Hume,
 David Hunt,
 Henry Hunt,
 John Hume,
 James Hume,
 Thomas Hume,
 Samuel Hume,
 John Hume,
 David Hume,
 David Hume,
 Joseph Hume,
 Zephaniah Hume,
 Thomas Hume,
 Peter Hume,
 Richard Hume,
 Elizabeth Hume.

Jonathan Woodcock.

Capt. Sam. Robinson's Co. in Col. Joseph Whitney's Reg. went for six weeks, from July 20th, 1778. Beyond wages they were to receive 4 shillings per day twenty miles in the return home. There were doubtless men in this company from surrounding towns.

Sam. Robinson, *Capt.*,
 David Robinson, *Ser.*,
 Henry Tibbitts, *Ser.*,
 Comfort Bates,
 Ann Bates,
 James Lee,
 Ben. Stacey,
 Nathan Roberts.

David Robinson, *Lieut.*,
 John Galt, *Capt.*,
 David Robinson,
 Joseph Duggitt,
 Andrew Tibbitts,
 Samuel Tibbitts,
 David Hunt,
 Jonathan Woodcock.

John Eves.

Capt. Elisha May's Co. in Col. John Duggitt's Reg. (from April 22nd, 1778, to Sept. 20, 1778) and two days to return home. Disbanded Sept. 21, 1778. Amount of paymaster's money, £2 per month, captain's £12.

Elisha May, *Capt.*,
 Ann Eves, *Lieut.*,
 Ben. May, *Lieut.*,
 Zephaniah Hume,
 Stephen Duggitt,
 Andrew Bates,
 Thomas Whitney,
 Ephraim Hunt, *Capt.*,
 John Hunt,
 Wm. Hunt,
 Peter Hunt,
 Joseph Hunt,
 Oliver Whitney.

Samuel Carpenter,
 James Galt,
 Thomas Lee,
 David Duggitt,
 Joel Eves,
 Samuel Stacey,
 John Galt,
 Benjamin Hunt,
 Ephraim Hunt,
 Ben. Hunt,
 Anne Hunt,
 John Hunt,
 Thomas Hunt.

William Stacey.

Sergeant Francis Galt's Co. in Capt. Joseph Francis's Co. of Col. Nathan Eves's Reg. went for three months for the first month, Sept. 1st, 1778. Amount of money for first month, Sept. 1st, £15. 10s. 4d. less than £2 per man. They were disbanded Dec. 1st, 1778. Francis, *Commander*,
 Thomas Hunt,
 Alfred Hunt.

Sam. Galt, *Capt.*,
 Galt, *Capt.*,
 John Hunt.

[See also, *Annals*, vol. 4, p. 100. — See also, *Annals*, vol. 4, p. 100. — See also, *Annals*, vol. 4, p. 100.]

Capt. Samuel Robinson's Co.,¹ Col. Isaac Deane's Reg., that marched on the alarm, to Tiverton, R. I., on the morning of July 31st, 1780.

Samuel Robinson, Capt.
 Eben^r Tyler, Lieut.
 Eliphaz Day, Dit.
 Peter Read, Clerk.
 Jeremiah Ingraham, }
 Andrew Bourn, } Ser.
 Noah Morse, }
 Jacob Ide, }
 Amos Ide, }
 David Pidge, } Cor.
 Daniel Lane, }
 Samuel Tingley, }
 Naaman Bishop,
 Benj. Barrows,
 James Bates,
 Beniah Barrows,
 Reuben Bates,
 Abraham Cummins,
 Amos Carpenter,
 Ezekiel Carpenter,
 Phinehas Claflen,
 Loammi Day,
 Abial Fuller,
 Eben^r Fuller,
 Wm. Freeman,
 Darias Fuller,

Gilbert Grant,
 Elisha Hall,
 Eben^r Hutchins,
 Amos Humphrey,
 John Ide,
 Daniel Gilson,
 Levi Gilson,
 Samuel Liscomb,
 Joseph B. Laland,
 Samuel Read,
 Ephraim Read,
 William Read,
 John Sweeting,
 Nathan Tingley,
 Simeon Titus,
 Eben^r Tiffany,
 Walter Tyler,
 Samuel Tyler,
 Elisha Welman,
 John Welman,
 Thomas Witherton,
 Abial Brown,
 Jupiter Free,
 Joseph Fuller,
 Oliver Carpenter,
 Samuel Blackinton,

Wm. Everitt.

Members of a company² raised in town in July, 1780, for six months.

Wm. Bradford,
 Timothy Freeman,
 Levi Blackinton,
 Levi Ide,
 Silas Richardson,
 Penuel Everitt,
 Eliphalet Gay,
 Abial Freeman,
 Otis Robinson,
 Josiah Bacon,
 David Robinson,
 Levi Chaffee,
 Obed Robinson,
 John Pullin,
 Benj. Sweetland,
 Phillip Allen,

Wm. Newell,
 Peter Blackinton,
 William Tyler,
 Hezekiah Tiffany,
 Elijah Fisher,
 Daniel Hewes,
 Aaron Cutting,
 Joseph Cushman,
 Reuben Ide,
 Nathan Hatch,
 Abial Tripp,
 Levi Maxey,
 Jonathan Wilmarth,
 Thomas French,
 Joseph Bishop,
 David Dannels.

The following is the fourth time that Samuel Robinson served as captain during the war, in response to the many special calls for troops in this vicinity. He was the only one from the town who served in that capacity

¹ See *Pay Rolls*, vol. 3, p. 110. ² See *Mus. Rolls*, vol. 4, p. 11.

several times. Three—Moses Willoughby, Caleb Richardson, and Stephen Richardson—each served twice, and the other named capitalists once.

Capt. Sam. Richmond, Col. John Dorr, Thomas King, served in R. I. in 1781. Master Mather, the *Provincetown* March 1790. "the *Marblehead*," February 1790, 1811, 1812, 1813.

Samuel Richardson, Capt.
Wm. Tibbitts,
Hezekiah Tiffany,
Wm. Hinkford, } Sigs.
David Richardson,
Caleb Richardson, Druggist,
William C. Rogers, Druggist,
Emmanuel Carpenter,
Orris Rogers,
Francis Carter,
O'Brien Freeman,
Elihu Reed,
Wm. Blackinton,
Levi Blackinton,
Reed, Druggist,
Reed, Druggist,
Elihu Freeman,
Levi Reed,
Levi Reed.

Daniel Richardson, Lt.
Abner Tibbitts,
Orris Richardson,
Wm. Tibbitts, } Capt.
Solomon Dunham,
Saml. Rogers, Elder,
Ephraim Coffey,
Abner Freeman,
Elihu Freeman,
William Rogers,
James Rogers,
Ephraim W. Freeman,
Levi Richardson,
Reed's Druggist,
William May,
James Rogers,
William Tibbitts,
James Cutting,
David Druggist,
Samuel Druggist.

Another company, named Capt. James Richmond, in Col. Isaac Dorr's regiment, sometimes have marched on the march to Dorchester. They had no representation from 1791 until the American War. President may about be paid.

Levi Richardson, Capt.
Moses Willoughby,
Reed, Sayward, } Sigs.
James Willoughby,
Reed (Reed's) Stamer, Druggist,
Josiah Allen,
George Blackinton,
Oliver Blackinton,
Zachary Rogers,
Levi Rogers,
Ephraim Rogers,
Wm. Freeman,
Francis Rogers,
Stephen Rogers,
Francis Rogers,
William Rogers,
Nathan Rogers,
Abisha Town,
Pentecost Walcott,
David Smith.

David Druggist, Capt.
Elihu Rogers,
James Richardson, } Capt.
Samuel Rogers,
Elihu Rogers,
John Mullin,
William May,
Samuel Newell,
James Orr,
Jacob Perry,
Ephraim Rogers,
David Robbins,
Samuel Stanley,
Jesse Stanley,
Stephen Sweetland,
William Sweetland,
David Whiting,
Emmanuel Druggist,
Henry Alexander,
Elihu Rogers.

William Sweetland. (Written twice on list.)

Capt. Moses Wilmarth's Co.¹ who marched on the alarm to R. I. in Col. Isaac Deane's Reg. They seem to have been in service from March to July 31-st, or Aug. 7th, 1781.

Moses Wilmarth, Capt.	Nathaniel Bishop, Lieut.
Zephaniah Bishop,	Dan. Carpenter,
Thomas Sweet,	Dan. Wilmarth,
Obadiah Carpenter,	Paul Sanford,
Abial Dunham,	Aruna Shepardson,
Elijah Barrows, Clerk.	Benj. Grover,
Noah Brown,	Abel Martin,
Comfort Bates,	Job Martin,
Joseph Barrows,	Comfort More,
Thomas Barden,	James Linkhorn,
Noah Blanding,	John Pike,
Solomon Bates,	Peter Parey,
Stephen Briggs,	Ichabod Parey,
Josiah Carpenter,	Caleb Parmenter,
Josiah Churchel,	Caleb Richardson,
Cyrel Carpenter,	Gideon Sweet,
Nathaniel Claffin,	Wm. Starkey,
Daniel Claffin,	Peter Thacher,
Noah Cooper,	Obadiah Thacher,
Amos Daggett,	Robard Titus,
Daniel Daggett,	Ebenezer Tyler,
Ebenezer Dunham,	Eliphalet Wilmarth,
Aseph Daggett,	Abisha Washbon,
Peter Derry,	Stephen Wilmarth,
Ezra French,	Samuel Willis,
Jonathan Follet,	Gershom Wilmarth,
	Noah Tiffany.

In a Rehoboth company, under Capt. John Perry, one Comfort Capern, from this town, is put down as "Mate."

In another company from that town, under Capt. Samuel Bliss, is found the name of Comphort Robinson of this town.

In the regiment of Col. Asa Whitecomb, the company of Capt. Hastings, the name of John Sweetland of Attleborough is found.²

The following is the only list of the dead found among the records:³

Capt. Keth's (Keith?) Co.	
David Hutchins,	Consider Brown,
Joseph French,	Reuben Daggett,
Benoni Willmarth,	Simeon Daggett,
	Noah Brown.

The last three were probably from some other company, and were either dead or missing.⁴

¹ See *Mus. Rolls*, vol. 3, p. 253.

² See *Mus. Rolls*, vol. 56, ps. 136, 138, 145.

³ See *Mus. Rolls*, vol. 56, p. 190.

⁴ I have followed many of the irregularities of spelling found on the above mentioned "Rolls," thinking it may be a matter of curiosity to some people to see the changes some names have undergone, and also the varieties of ways of spelling the same name in which our fathers indulged themselves at that period. These lists comprise all of the *town* enlistments, not individual enlistments of certain citizens elsewhere, in which the town would have no monetary interest. — EDITOR.

CHAPTER VI.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TOWN, CONTINUED. — DIVISION.

THE long war of the Revolution finally came to an end, and for some time we find very little upon the records relating to enlistments, bonuses, pay of soldiers, &c.

The following, found on the ancient State Records of the General Court, is of interest to every inhabitant of the Old Bay State: —

"The General Court begun and held at Boston, the 25th day of October 1780, being the first sitting of the General Court of the COMMONWEALTH of MASSACHUSETTS."

Sept. 4, 1782. It was voted: "to allow the townables for the year 1780, for the Counterfeit money they took in Collecting the Taxes of said town." The towns expenses for that year were £300.

Some controversy regarding the ministerial land arose in 1783, and at a meeting held October 8th, it was voted: "that it is the town's property." A committee of three was chosen: "to take possession of the ministerial Farm." These were Col. John Daggett, Capt. Phineas Tyler, and Mr. Levi Maxell. "Instructed the committee to demand the money the ministerial farm rented for ever since Mr. Weld's, Discease, then Disrust Capt. E. Tyler, by motion made, and proceeded to the choice of an other, and chose Capt. Ebenezer Tiffany in his stead. And then acted on the third article respecting Doctor Mann, keeping a Publick House, and voted all but five in favor of it."

Feb. 9, 1784. It was put to vote whether the town should give extraordinary pay to officers in the Continental army, and passed unanimously in the negative. Among the orders upon the treasury for this year is the following: "Pay to the widow Anne Newell for Boarding Mary Lutter Black Child one year to the 18th of November 1784, 4s. 4s. and clothing said child, said term, 19s."

In 1785, "Pay Capt. Moses Wilmarth, for taking another of Joseph Woodcock's boys to bring up til he arive to the age of twenty one years, the sum of £6." Board during this year ranged from 1s. 6d. to 6s. — that is from 37 cents to \$1.25 — per week. Corresponding board today would probably range from \$2.00 to \$6.00 or \$7.00 per week. Another order for 1785, is as follows: "Pay to Abiathar Richardson for moving Nathaniel Gernoe to Wrentham two days of 2s. for moving Job born to mansted the sum of 2s." In 1786, Caleb Richardson, one of the selectmen, received for two and one half days "sarvis" as one of a committee, 10s.

March 21, 1786. "Voted that one third of the annual April meetings, be held in the meeting-house in the east precinct for the future."

May 16, 1786. "The town vote to Chuse a committee of five men to Sarve in county convention if the other towns in the county should see fit to meet them in order to find out the Reson that circulating cash is so scarce, and so harde to be got, and the Reson that taxes are laid so heavy upon us." We of the present time can deeply sympathize in these two grievances of our forefathers, for to this day the mystery attending the poor circulation of the former and the real reason for the weight of the latter are still unsolved. The town chose Capt. Alexander Foster, Capt. Caleb Richardson, and Lieut. Nathaniel Bishop this committee, and they were instructed "to act according to the best of their Judgment."

At a town meeting lawfully warned and held Nov. 6th, 1786, it was voted to instruct the representatives at the General Court to endeavor to get a redress of a number of "articles which we look upon to be grievances." These articles were ten in number. One related to the large pay of the "first magistrate of this commonwealth, and other officers of government;" another to the neglect in the settlement of important matters pending between this Commonwealth and Congress, and another upon "the present mode of taxation," claiming that it acted unequally. Article 3d, as one of the grievances to be redressed, reads: "The existence of that Order of men called Lawyers."

Many complaints of taxes are recorded, and frequent abatements also, one entry being made as follows: "To Mr. Abiathar Richardson, Constable. This comes to order you to abate to Remember Ingraham his poll tax in the state and town tax made Jan. 17, 1787, the sum of £1 9s., and his receipt with this order shall discharge you so much with the town treasurer." Signed by the selectmen.

March 20, 1787. "Voted that the powder taken out of the town stock (in 1775) should be Replast." The following amusing entry was found among those for the year 1788: "Ear mark of Peter Thacher is a swallers tail on the top of the right ear, and a slant cross on the upper side of the left ear." Then as if suddenly realizing his blunder, the clerk adds, "Creturs mark."

March 27, 1787, is found the following order on the treasurer: "This comes to order you to pay Doctor Abijah Everet for keeping the town school in the quarter where Caleb Richardson, Jr. lives, half a month, and boarding himself for the year 1786, £1. 8d. More to said Everet for doctoring the town's poor 11s. and his receipt, shall be your discharge for so much." In this same year the selectmen ordered certain sums of money to be paid to widow Bethiah Bishop for the board, etc., of her mother Mercy Woodcock, from a given date "to the day of her Deth." A further sum "for the cost of rum and watchers for her mother in the later part of her sickness," was

A Count of the Valuation Taken and Completed this 7th Day November 1792, by E. Bacon, A. Richardson, J. Ide.

Polls Rateable 16 years Old & upwards to 21 years	81
Polls Rateable 21 years Old & upwards	303
Male Polls not Rateable, not Supported by ye Town	89
Male Polls not Rateable Supported by ye Town	5
Dwelling Houses	215
Barns	165
Amount of Funded Securites at Six per. cent	£385 10
Ditto at Three per Sent	277 4
Ditto not on Intrest	258 10
all Other Securites	874 16-6
Money on hand	169 10

Acres of Tilage Land	1282
Bushels of Rie	2666
Bushels of Oats	472
Bushels of Corn	9264
Peas & Beans	111
Acres of English and upland mowing	1860½
Tons of Hay yearly produce of the Same	736¾

Money at Intrest £1248

Acres of Fresh meadow	1944
Tons of Hay yearly produce of the same	1188
Acres of Pasturing	5288
Cows the same will keep	1069
Barrels of Cyder	1503
Acres of Woodland	4450
Acres of unimproved Land	1113
Acres of Land covered with water	215
Number of Horses 3 years Old & upward	138
Steers & Cows 3 years Old &c	861
Oxen 4 years Old &c	311
Swine 6 months old	375
Stock & Trade [Stock in trade?]	£850
Common Land	697 (acres)
High ways	708 (no explanation of fig.)
Tilage — E. mowing — F. meadow — pasturing — Woodland — Un. L. — Upl. — Water	
No 1 173 - - 159 - - - 198 - - - 482 - - - 262 - - - 581 - - 174 - - 21	
No 2 249 - - 233 - - - 328 - - - 657 - - - 600 - - - 1005 - - 316 - - 43	
422 - - 392 - - - 526 - - - 1139 - - - 862 - - - 1586 - - 490 - - 64	

Attleborough, August 13th 1792

392
526
1139
862
1586
490
64
5481

Number of Acres the Town of
Attleborough Measured when the
Town was Surved by the Selectmen,
In Order for to take Map &c is
28363 Acres in the whole.

Sept. 4, 1792. "Voted to annex the county tax with ye town tax." In the warrant for a meeting for October this year, an article was inserted to see if the town would vote to provide "hospitals for ye benefit of ye town, or those individuals who would wish to have ye small pox by inoculation." The

article was dismissed. We conjecture the demand for such a hospital could not have been great.

Aug. 4, 1794, a meeting was held at the house of Mr. Ephraim Dean, where a committee consisting of six captains—Ephraim Tyler, Gaius Richardson, Ebenezer Tiffany, John Richardson, Samuel and Nathaniel Robinson, and Deacon Enoch Robinson—was chosen to see what encouragement the town would give the soldiers. The meeting was adjourned to a later hour of the same day, to give time for the deliberations of this committee. They reported: "That the town give the soldiers such additional compensation as with the Continental pay shall amount to 42s. per month (\$7.00, a shilling 16½ cents), when in actual service, if they are not called out of this State, nor the State of Rhode Island. But, if called out of the aforesaid States to duty 54s. per month, one half month advance pay when called to march." This report was accepted. "Then voted to give the men 12s. each, if called to muster in Company, money to be paid on Muster Day." On May 6th of this year, Doctor Bezalel Mann informed the people at town meeting that he had "taken into his house Abramam Babcock a month man," who belonged to Westerly, R. I.

1795. Town expenses £170, and £200 for highways. At a town meeting lawfully warned and held on Monday the sixth day of April, 1795, "Then to the mind of the town upon the important subject of paying the Militia in times of peace.—Which votes are as followeth—viz.—Not for paying the Militia in time of peace—148.—In favor of paying the Militia—7 votes.—Then chose a committee to draft a petition to the General Court and lay it before the town at their next town meeting for their approval." The petition is as follows:—

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and House of Reps of the Commonwealth of Mass. in General Court assembled June 1795.

The petition and remonstrance of the inhabitants of the town of Attitash in the county of Bristol sheweth, that at the last session of the last General Court sundry soldiers were presented to your Honors by officers of the Militia from various parts of this Commonwealth, praying for a revision of the Militia laws, and that the Militia be forever and be paid under pay on footing of muster days; that we acknowledge the responsibility of the Militia and are not conscious of any injury wherein they have rendered their permanent loss of the importance of their services, not without burthening to support, neither can we believe that the giving of the Militia for mustering in times of peace can be the true interest and safety of the community, and must tend to destroy that Militia spirit and discipline which are worthy men of that profession have hitherto been so successful. It will also be an equal injury to the safety of Mass. in its situation to suspend the Military order that will render the possible future of Government necessary and introduce a standing army to be supported in times of peace and destroy the essence of our freedom. Nor can we help being surprised at the sudden alteration that has taken place only in consequence of a reverse of fortune, for at the beginning of the anti-slavery Revolution our town patriots made use of the argument against your Honors, that they had conscientiously opposed the introduction of money from money as to times of peace, which was then thought necessary the rights and freedom of the people. Hence it can be seen that our soldiers have more encouragement we think in your regard than they formerly had. Since your Honors have given us the petition we have seen that they are at a

time when they were called upon much oftener than at present without fee or reward agreeable to the custom that had been in practice time immemorial, that they should now be taxed to pay officers and soldiers for services not one half so burdensome as those they have performed. We have no wish to injure the present Militia nor to detract from their responsibility, but that your Honors would amend the Militia laws agreeable to their wishes so far as may be consistent with the public good. But we think ourselves bound in duty to remonstrate against paying them as officers or Soldiers on training days, and humbly request that such parts of their petition as pray for compensation may be dismissed and your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

At a town meeting lawfully warned and held at Attleboro' the sixth day of May 1795, the inhabitants being assembled, the above petition was perfected and read, and the town voted to accept it, and voted that it should be recorded and sent to the General Court.

A true entry, errors excepted.

Jacob Ide. — Town Clerk

Attleboro', May 6th 1795.

June 1, 1795. "Capt. Joel Read for taking a plan of the town in part sum o' £4. 7s. 6d., Jacob Ide for assisting in this work and making boundaries etc. the sum of £2. 9s. 6d. Expenses of Ebenezer Daggett for three days surveying work 17s. 6d." This year one Noah Cole had his entire rate for the previous year abated. It is to be regretted that the reason for this action is not given, as it might be applicable at the present time in similar cases.

Nov. 30th, 1795, in an order upon the treasurer for board for "48 weeks at 1s. 6d. per week," for Thankful Bowen, "for supporting herself" the charge is "12 Dollars." This is the first mention of *dollars* found with one exception,¹ and from this time on for several years there is a mixture of dollars and cents with pounds, shillings, and pence in the town's accounts — the natural result of the establishment of a new standard of money.

For the next twenty-five years there is comparatively little of special interest relating to the history of the town to be found upon the clerk's books.

Article 7, in the warrant for a meeting to be held Sept. 1st, 1812, reads as follows: "To see if the inhabitants of said town will vote to make up to the soldiers lately detached such sums per month as shall appear to be reasonable compensation in case they shall be called into active service."

Sept. 25, 1812. "Then voted to dismiss the 7th. article, and not act upon

¹ This was in February, 1751, when for some purpose the town were to raise "\$3,000 hard money." These must have been Spanish or Mexican dollars, which were in circulation at that time, and which later became the standard of the American dollar, and there was no other until 1794. In 1785 Congress decided that the dollar "should be the unit of money of the United States." The mint was established in 1792, but no dollars were coined until 1794. The coinage was at first irregular, hence the mixture of terms until the coinulation became general. In the New Haven Register — July, 1887 — it was said that dollar was the English for thaler, "the first of which was coined about 1486, and corresponds quite closely to our present American silver dollar." Thaler means coming from a valley — *Thal* in German — and the first thaler was coined in a Bohemian valley. Under Charles Vth, the German thaler "became the coin of the world." It was probably introduced into London by North Germans, who would pronounce it as if spelled "ughler." By easy transition the English later dollar.

18." Thus some rather stirring action in 1814, and was again discussed. These two short records would lead the town to look ahead relating to town action during these years of war, and, as is seen, they amount to nothing. Very probably some citizens of the town may have been in active service, but the State archives through the names of no contingent of soldiers sent from this town, as a town. We are told also that there was no volunteer service. Two companies were levied from the four militia companies then in existence. One company was sent to New Bedford, and here one of its members was accidentally shot, but the company had no encounters with the enemy. The other company was commanded by Ezra Daggett; Samuel Cushman was its lieutenant, and Chester Bagbee its ensign. This company went to Plymouth, but saw no active service. We may be sure, however, that had occasion offered, its members and those of the other company would have fought with the same courage and determination which have ever characterized Attleborough soldiers.

During this period, or perhaps a little later, taxes were levied by the United States Government on many articles, and there was a specific tax of \$2.00 levied on every watch. As may be seen by some old tax bills in the possession of our present town clerk, if a man failed to pay his tax of a dollar or two on some of these articles taxed, the northeast corner of his farm would be set off for sale. In the event of a failure to meet such demands, it became the business of the tax collector—then in our town probably Mr. Jacob Ide—to look up a man's property, and levy thereupon. We are not told the amount of land claimed per dollar, but in subsequent years some of these "corners" were sold in this town, and the process of redeeding, etc., which necessarily ensued, caused great trouble and expense, probably many times the amount of the original taxes.¹

During the above-mentioned period the State district to which the town belongs underwent several changes. In 1812 it was in the "Bristol and Norfolk District;" two years later "Bristol District," in 1822 "Bristol and Dukes County," and the following year "Bristol District" alone. Subsequently the districts were numbered (in 1857) and this form of designation is still used, in place of names.

Sept. 12, 1825. At a town meeting "held at the old meeting-house in the west parish," it was voted that the clergy should become members of the school committee. This committee in those days numbered fully three times as many as now. At this meeting it was also voted "that the town grant one hundred and fifty dollars for the support of a singing school the ensuing

¹ There are still many citizens in present possession of such an old-time house, etc., and this notwithstanding the fact that the State has long since taken away the right to levy such taxes. It is probable that many of these houses are now in the hands of the State, and are being sold as public property. A similar and somewhat different case is now being heard in the courts of the State, and it is probable that the State will be successful in its claim to the property.

winter." "Chose Jesse Carpenter, John A. Read, Chester Bugbee, Artemas Stanley, Rev. Mr. Williams for a committee to superintend the Singing School." At this same meeting Abijah M. Ide, Jonathan Peck, and Abiathar Richardson, Jr., were chosen "to make a purchase of house and lands for the poor." This is the first mention of a place where the poor should be cared for collectively.

The town expenses at this period seem to have increased rapidly. In 1826 they were \$2,500, with \$1,500 for highways. In that year cattle, horses, and swine were not permitted to run at large, and never generally after that time.

It required considerable time to find a suitable poor farm, for it was not until Sept. 20th, 1827, that the town voted, "that the town and State poor should be moved to the house purchased for the town for the purpose of a house for them, as soon as may be convenient, and there supported under the direction of the overseers of the poor," and not until this time was the report of the purchasing committee accepted. This farm and house were on Watery Hill. The house was subsequently burned down, and one or two persons lost their lives. The fire was caused by hot ashes which were taken up in a wooden pail.

At the above mentioned meeting of Sept. 20th, 1827, it was voted "that the selectmen shall receive proposals respecting a building for holding town meetings, from individuals if any should be made, and report at an adjournment of this meeting." At a meeting held on the third of the following April (1828), the selectmen, with Noah Clafin and Abijah M. Ide, were chosen "to Draught a plan of a Town house, and also a Cite, and report to next meeting." May 5th following a meeting was held in the vestry of the East meetinghouse, when this committee's report was accepted, and the selectmen were to attend to the building and have it completed "by the first Monday of November next." The plan was of the simplest, the house being about square, with a peaked roof, and the site selected was the nearest possible to the centre of the town geographically, and on the road leading from the East village to the "city," just opposite the residence of the late Dr. Alfred Martin. It was built by "uncle" Jacob Capron, and he was paid \$80 for the work. It cannot be considered a credit to the town as a public building, nor need there be any regret that it is a fast crumbling ruin.¹

The trouble with boundary lines still continued, for during this and the several ensuing years committees were chosen to settle the same between this and a number of the adjoining towns.

In 1830 the town appropriated \$3,000 for expenses. In a warrant dated March 29th of that year is found the following resolution:—

"Resolved that in the opinion of this town, the public good does not require any license for retailers of spirituous liquors in the town of Attle-

¹ It was entirely demolished some time since. 1893.

himself, agreeable to a petition for that purpose." This article was discussed.

April 7, 1844. — Voted to instruct the selectmen and to appropriate and enter the names of any persons to receive licenses to sell liquors during the coming year."

In 1844 the poverty state that was suffering men were caused by the storm, and in 1846 four poor children, and for the first time, but in 1847 that year was settled in the annual change of efforts. In that year soldiers were chosen for the first time.

April 4, 1849, the selectmen reported having erected "stone posts" marked the year as follows: — "The road between Southfield and the Boston and Newport road on the point," and recommended the erection of others at the following places: One in George Foster's, one at the schoolhouse near John Druggett's, one at the Addition Richards's, "Old Tavern House," one near Emma Wilbur's, one at the corner of 4th and 5th, two near Dr. Fuller's old house, one near the burying-ground near the city, one at the "Rail Road House," one at Mr. Holmes's, one at the Falls, one at the Tabor House, one at Samuel Gould's, one at James Richards, one at Tom May's, and one near Timothy Stanley's. Many if not all of these were placed, and in some instances the flagposts are still standing, which stood as before being after several years: but to witness the recently settled roads have become thickly-populated village streets, and the present generation could not unaided find the sites of the old guideposts.

In 1845 town expenses were \$4,000 and the appropriation for highways \$1,000.

A special meeting was called for July 12th, 1847, just subsequent to the burning of the almshouse, when it was voted to build another "suitable for the use of the town," but not on the same site as the former. A committee of seven was appointed to make the necessary inquiries both as to a new location and the disposal "of the present Almshouse Farm" and report a plan for a new building with probable cost. One of this committee, Mr. Amos W. Carpenter, is still living. This committee's first report (1847) that certain farm was not accepted, and later the selectmen were authorized to sell the old farm, which was done April 29th, 1848, for \$1,600.16. Some time previous to this the town must have received a special gift or legacy for its poor, for it was about this time voted that "when the almshouse farm is sold, the E. Draper donation be invested in the purchase of another farm." In November the farm belonging to Colonel Ira R. Miller, containing 109½ acres, was purchased for \$5,250 and is the one still used as the "poor farm."

During the following year there were several meetings held in the school-houses, and the selectmen offered a reward of \$500 for the apprehension of any criminals, while the town resolved itself into a "committee of the

whole" for the protection of property. There is no further record upon this subject.

In 1855 the town expenses were \$10,000 and those for highways \$2,000.

Thirty-two years before the final decision the question of town division arose for the first time. In the warrant bearing date Oct. 20th, 1855, Article 5th reads as follows: "To see if the town will choose a committee to take into consideration the propriety of making a division of the town, and report at some future meeting." At the meeting "warned" by the above warrant, a committee consisting of the five following gentlemen was chosen, namely, George Price, Hervey M. Richards, Lyman W. Dean, Joseph W. Capron, Elkanah Briggs.

During this year (1855) the Angle Tree line was remeasured.

April 7, 1856, the committee on division reported as follows:—

Your Committee, chosen at the last November meeting, to take into consideration the propriety of a division of the Town, have attended to that duty, and submit the following report.

The town now contains over 5000 Inhabitants, and more than 1000 Voters, being a larger number than can conveniently assemble in one room for the transaction of business properly, or so as to be understood by all. And should a division be made, each part would contain a greater number of Inhabitants than the majority of the towns in the Commonwealth, and also would be entitled each to a Representative in the General Court. The town house and its location has ever been a subject of complaint, and now being out of repair, and insufficient in size, and surrounded by none of the accommodation desirable for man or beast; and believing there is no immediate prospect of the Town in its present condition, agreeing upon a more favorable locality for the erection of a new town House that will be convenient or satisfactory to the whole Town. Should a location be selected further to the North,—thereby saving to them a portion of their travel,—it would discommode the southerly and easterly sections, more than it would benefit the North, therefore nothing would be gained by the whole people in changing the present location, which we believe all agree to be unsuitable.

There is not now, and no prospect there ever will be a common centre to this Town, where it will be convenient for the whole to meet, or for the safe keeping of the Town Records, or for the convenient meeting of the Town Officers, for those having business to transact with them, or for the school committees of the several School Districts,—subjecting them to much time and trouble, owing to this want of a common centre, which would be avoided were a division made, and then a place could be centrally selected for the safe keeping of the Records, and the meeting of the officers, in each part, more convenient to all.

Your Committee, in order to bring the whole subject properly before the Town, come to the conclusion to recommend a division by a line commencing on the west line of the Boston and Providence R. R. where it crosses the Mansfield and Attleborough line,—thence running westerly a straight line, until it intersects the Cumberland line at Stone point northerly of the house of the late John Carpenter deceased. This line will pass through a sparsely populated part of the town, and will least interrupt the present boundaries of the School Districts. Such a line will leave on the North, about 2,800, and on the South about 2,600 Inhabitants,—leaving a larger population on the north, and a larger territory on the south,—the greater mechanical interest on the north, and the agricultural interest on the south:—thereby insuring a greater sameness of interest in each part, and more harmony in the management of their schools, and the transaction of their public business.

If the Town is ever to be separated, your committee believe now is the most favorable time, as there is now no public building of much value to be sacrificed, or other property belonging to the town.

Attleborough, Apr. 5, 1856.

signed,

J. W. Capron,
H. M. Richards,
L. W. Dean.

acres of land, embracing \$4,000,000 of property in addition to the territory granted by the decision of the Royal Commissioners of 1741.

Fourth. — Because it divides Seekonk, Attleborough, Swansey and Westport, by an arbitrary line, in such a manner, as greatly to injure those portions which remain in Massachusetts.

Fifth. — Because it appears to be a compromise made mainly for the benefit of Rhode Island and Fall River, whereby valuable interest, and important privileges belonging to this State are ceded away without any equivalent.

Sixth. — Because, — as this whole matter has been brought before the Superior Court of the United States for adjudication, and attended by great expense, with the prospect of a speedy settlement: — We therefore prefer that it should be disposed of by that tribunal, rather than to accept the proposed line.

Seventh. — Resolved — That it is against the interest of the people of this Commonwealth, and particularly of this county, to make the exchange proposed, as it would not only deprive us of valuable territory and of rights of fishery long exercised by the people of Massachusetts, and without an equivalent; but would sunder long established relations, derange the proportion between several of the Representative and Senatorial Districts of this County, and thus violate the existing provisions of the Constitution.

In 1861 it was voted to appropriate the sum of \$500 for the purpose of defeating the proposed conventional line between Massachusetts and Rhode Island. From their settlement up to 1741, Plymouth Colony and Massachusetts — after their union in 1692 — “extended from the Atlantic to the Narragansett Bay.” The towns of Barrington, Warren, Bristol, Tiverton, and Little Compton, R. I., were then a part of Massachusetts. In 1741 Rhode Island laid claim to a portion of our State, and commissioners were appointed by the British Crown “to hear and determine the controversy.” They gave these five towns to Rhode Island and made some other changes in the line, but did not make precise and exact boundaries or set up any monuments on them. They never saw the land, but made the changes by drawing the line *on paper*. This was the cause which led to the subsequent disputes between the two States.¹ The commissioners from the two States disagreed in their special markings of the line. Those appointed from this State in 1844 “did substantially agree with the commissioners from R. I., and so reported to the Governor and Council in 1848.” Their proceedings were, however, “with great unanimity, and no little indignation,” declared null and void by our Legislature, “and a special commission was appointed in 1852 to prostrate the eighty-four stone monuments set up by the Mass. officers.”

The two States, though several efforts were made, failed to agree, and the Legislature by its “Resolve of 1848” directed the Governor to commence proceedings in the Supreme Court of the United States, there to have this matter finally determined. The bill filed in 1852 desired that Court to appoint commissioners to run the line exactly as the Royal Commissioners had run it on paper — as it was possible to do — and set up the necessary monuments. This again would easily have settled the dispute, but before

¹ This was the Royal Charter that took from us the town of Cumberland ceded to Rhode Island in 1745.

town had been having a progressive result in stimulating all efforts to build the rail line, and it might be correctly said arbitrary and "by no means a Brady Island-like proceeding, with a Party-line and the more arbitrary partition of Sandwich in exchange for the town of Fall River; R. F. was a small portion of Duxbury." This parcel of the town an estate was bought accordingly, the exchange being so inequitable as to let Massachusetts lose 2,000 people, 921 voters, and \$1,640,000 worth of property.

The people of this town did all in their power to prevent the yielding to Duxbury. They considered it an extraordinary demand; but their efforts, with those of all the others interested, were of no avail; the new line was run with no apparent regard for rights or equity. The line was run badly and no wonder (the difference in our long line, and that was done by our citizens was done out of loyalty to the State and a neighborly feeling for the towns especially affected). The new boundary line was ratified by the authorities of the two States, and the Supreme Court, and the arguments being before it were all proper and just. The result of this exchange has been different from what was anticipated. Fall River and Fall River were the two localities most largely interested and apparently at the time the most injured by the change; but to both of these cities it has proved to be a benefit.

The chief actions of the town during the immediately succeeding years related to the Civil War and will be noticed in the following chapter.

April 4, 1864. "Voted to instruct the selectmen to complain of all sellers of intoxicating drinks, not licensed by the laws of the State, and all persons who rent buildings for that nefarious business, in this town."

In 1865 the appropriation for current expenses was \$14,000.

May 2, 1871, the town voted not to allow the sale of "ale, porter, strong beer, or lager beer," the vote cast being 296 opposed, 70 in favor. "Voted that the town lease the Agricultural Hall for three years, at \$500 per annum, for first, and second floors if needed." The first town meeting held there was on May 3d, 1872, and the meetings continued to be held there up to the time of the division.

April 7, 1873. "Voted to appropriate the sum of \$800, for the G. A. R. posts, to use in decorating the graves of the soldiers and sailors of the Union, to include all who have ever fought for the country."

November 22, 1873. "Voted on motion of W. D. Wilbur, that the town consent to allow the formation of a district, under the name of 'Attleborough Wagon Safety District,' within the limits of the 'Attleborough Wagon Safety District' by an act and for the purpose set forth in Chapter 332, of the Acts of 1870." At the same meeting, "On motion of E. Hunt, voted that the town do appoint a committee to procure exhibits for the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia in 1876, illustrative of the interests, progress, and present condition of Attleborough, as requested by the Massachusetts Centennial Commission." It was voted that the committee

consist of nine persons, including the selectmen. "Chose by nomination, J. B. Savery, John Daggett, Esq., George B. Whitney, Henry Rice, Elisha G. May, S. P. Lathrop, and the selectmen." The latter were G. M. Horton, D. S. Hall, and H. C. Read. For some reason the proposed plan was not carried out.

In 1877 the appropriation for current expenses was \$40,000 and \$8,000 for highways, an almost triple increase in the former in twelve years. The appropriation for paupers was \$4,500.

At the annual town meeting held March 17, 1879, the office of overseer of the poor was separated from that of selectmen and assessors, and one only chosen. At an adjourned meeting held April 7th of that year, it was voted "to instruct the selectmen to have the Old Powder House repaired at an expense not to exceed sixty dollars, and that the old shingles be placed inside the building." This year the town voted to use the entire Agricultural Building at a rental of \$1,000.

May 19, 1881. "Voted to subscribe to the Providence Telephone Company, and place an instrument in the Town Clerk's office."

An Act relative to the rights of women to vote for school committees was approved by the State Legislature on April 9, 1881. Four ladies in this town qualified and voted as soon as possible. They were Mrs. Lowell Brown, Dr. Laura V. G. Mackie, Mrs. Wm. Thurber, and Mrs. Samuel Holman.

The results of this Act of our Legislature, for good or ill, have not as yet been manifested to any great degree. We do not speak with regard to the motives governing the women themselves. Thus far we believe it to be quite true that every woman who has qualified to vote in Attleborough has done so intelligently and conscientiously, but it is not yet time to look for the effects of so recent a cause. The coming generation must pass judgment upon this great political change of the nineteenth century.

In 1883 the town voted, "No license." One year after the Local Option Bill was passed, the town voted in favor of license, and the selectmen opposed the measure and prevented its being carried into effect.

March 17, 1884. "Voted to grant the use of the school houses in the village of Attleborough for evening schools, to be maintained by the trustees of the Richardson School Fund."

At this meeting the question of division was again brought forward.

"Voted that it is the sense of this meeting that it is for the best interests of the town, that this town should be divided: 225 votes for, 168 against."

"Voted to commit the entire subject of the division of the town to a committee of thirteen, to be chosen by nomination as follows: five from the north section of the town, five from the east section, and three from the south section, with instructions to report at an adjourned meeting." The following named gentlemen constituted this committee: Francis S. Draper, Oscar M. Draper, William H. Rogers, William H. Kling, Joseph G. Barden,

William P. Shaw, Edwin A. Robinson, Eliza G. May, Charles E. Bliss, George A. Adams, Philip Brady, George N. Grindall, Everett S. Harten.

At this meeting a Board of Health was elected for the next year.

March 29 the committee appointed on the 17th instant reported in favor of division, giving several reasons as to its expediency. One was, there being two essentially thriving sections in the town, their "municipal and business interests" would be advanced by division; another, that the educational facilities (and the demand for each section) and health of the large population of the town could easily have a very nearly equal division. The report further stated,—"That the municipal interests and prospects of the town and the public welfare of its inhabitants on account of our greatly increased population and diverse interests cannot now be successfully guarded and intelligently considered as in the past. Therefore your committee find that the municipal business and educational interests of the town and the public welfare of its inhabitants demand that the town should, and we recommend that the town be divided into two parts, one of which shall include and be known by the name of North Attleborough and the other or remaining part as Attleborough." The committee further recommended that the dividing line begin "at the division line between Norton and Mansfield, and running southwest by a straight line across the town to the point where the highway from Adamsdale touches the Rhode Island line, said line passing near the residence of E. D. Parmenter, J. Crehan, W. Givens, and through the village of Oldtown, crossing the turnpike at the intersection of said turnpike with the highway leading to R. Esten's, and then passing near the house of H. Carpenter north of Adamsdale to said point in the Rhode Island line."

The valuation of the town for 1883 was \$5,367,099. By said division line \$2,729 would be taken from East Attleborough, \$157,463 from South Attleborough. The valuation of North Attleborough was \$2,465,995. With the addition North Attleborough's valuation would be \$2,681,904 less of East Attleborough \$2,681,919. The committee further recommended that real and personal property rights of action, and public debt existing at date of division be divided between the two towns according to the valuation of property within the limits of each, to be assessed by a Board of Appraisers, or in any other way the town might determine. W. H. Kling, Charles E. Bliss, G. N. Grindall, E. S. Harten, W. P. Shaw, W. H. Ruder, Geo. A. Adams, stood in favor; F. S. Draper, O. M. Draper, E. A. Robinson, E. G. May, J. G. Barden, were opposed to these measures (and Philip Brady must have opposed them, though his name was not found with these others). It was voted that a committee of three be appointed to select a competent surveyor to survey the boundary lines of the town and report with a plan of the proposed new line. This committee were G. A. Adams, C. E. Bliss, E. G. May, O. M. Draper, J. G. Barden.

May 27, 1884, this matter was brought before the citizens for their decision.

"Upon the question, 'Shall the town be divided?' 'No,' 225 votes, 'Yes,' 180 votes." The matter at this time, it is said, hinged more upon the proposed line than upon division itself, and the unfavorable decision was because the line was not satisfactory to the town.

March 15, 1886. Upon the license question the vote stood, "Yes," 382; "No," 434.

August 27, 1886. "Voted that the town instruct the selectmen to divide the town into as many voting precincts as they deem proper." This arrangement was for greater convenience in the election of State officers at the autumn town meetings. The annual meetings for the election of town officers and the transaction of town business continued to be held as before at Agricultural Hall. At this same meeting in August it was voted "that the town light the main thoroughfare between Attleborough and North Attleborough (with electric lights); voted to appropriate therefor a sum not to exceed nine hundred dollars."

September 18, 1886. The town was divided into three voting districts, designated as North, East, and South Districts. The appropriations for 1886 were, for paupers, \$8,000; for highways and bridges, \$23,000; for current expenses, \$8,000, and for incidental expenses, \$5,000. The taxes have been very heavy, and on the increase for several years, on account of the large debt the town incurred for the construction of its waterworks, and the expenses for repairing the damages caused by the flood of February, 1886.

At the annual town meeting in March, 1887, it was voted — 78 to 52 — to authorize the construction of a tunnel under the Park Street crossing of the Boston and Providence R. R. Nothing of special importance came up at this meeting outside the usual affairs, such as acceptance of streets, building of bridges over highways or railroads, school appropriations, ordinary expenses of the town, etc. The vote at this meeting on the license question stood, "No," 561, "Yes," 197. Appropriations were \$90,000, and the entire amount to be raised by taxation was \$128,400. The town debt amounted to \$153,500. Of this sum, \$25,000 was in notes for the balance of the loan deposited in the year 1883, for the purchase of the School Districts' property; \$30,000 was for a portion of the balance of the town's indebtedness not provided for by taxation; \$65,000 for bonds; and \$33,500 was borrowed in anticipation of the taxes for 1886-87.

The following ladies qualified to vote, and registered in March, 1887, and thirty-four of the number cast their ballots at the annual meeting.

Amelia R. Amos,
Anne F. Barden,
Cora F. Barden,
Emma L. Battey,
Phebe E. Boomer,
Harriet A. Blackinton,
Zemira Blackinton,

Emily B. Fittz,
Ellen A. Franklin,
Jennie F. Fuller,
Alice D. Graham,
Ellen G. Gustin,
Deborah B. Hatch,
Hannah F. Hatch,

Florence Nightingale,
Emily R. Perry,
Louise K. Philbrook,
Angee M. Porter,
Ellen E. Read,
Eliza A. Richardson,
Mary K. Robbins,

James E. Draper	And E. H. Hunt,	Emerson M. Smith
Monte A. Briggs	George A. Hutton	Ernest L. Smith
Samuel G. Brown	Edw. D. Hunt	Edw. C. Smith
Robert F. Canby	John F. Johnson	Leah J. Smith
William M. Chandler	Henry M. Johnson	Elizabeth Stewart
Carl H. Conant	Edmund C. Jones	Mar. E. Strong
Martha P. Conant	Thomas C. Johnson	Edw. D. Tinsley
Samuel S. Drake	Arthur E. Jones	John M. Thomas
James T. Ellis	Edward T. Leach	Edmund G. Thomas
Charles E. Evans	Joseph V. G. Moore	Henry A. Wagon
Harriet S. Foster	John J. Merrill	John L. Wagon
Elizabeth M. Draper		John F. Whitcomb

As time has gone by the last annual report attributes to the division, the following officers were deemed necessary for the proper attention to the various affairs of this town, and the transacting of its public business. Selectmen, three, one from each district; Assessors, five; Overseers of the Poor, three; Treasurers, one; Town Clerk, one; School Committee, nine members; Tax Collectors, three, one from each district; Road Surveyors, twenty; Constables, twenty-five; Board of Health, five members; Sinking Fund Commissioners, three; Treasurer of same, one; Sealer of Weights and Measures, one; Fence Viewers, five; Surveyors of Wood and Bark, ten; Weighers of Coal and Iron, one; Surveyors of Land, six; Auditors, three; Pound Keeper, one; Truant Officers, three; Special Police, eleven; Fire Police, nine; Forest Firewards, nine, three in each district; Board of Registrars, four members; Wardens, nine, three for each district. Total, one hundred and sixty.

During 1880 the local question of dividing the town again came up, and for many months it was the theme for general discussion throughout the entire territorial limit. The movement in this matter started in East Attleborough. The first perhaps to agitate the question publicly was Lyman M. Stanley. Alford S. Everett, S. H. Harris, and Charles L. Bliss, were the most promoters of the movement in that part of the town.

A petition, leading to a separation in division, was circulated, and was at first signed by about three hundred (300) persons. Later, this number was increased to five hundred and ninety-seven (597). Of these 597 petitioners, 97 were not voters; 158 were resident north of the proposed dividing line, and represented \$250,000 worth of property; and those south of the line represented \$775,000 worth of property.

A counter-petition was also circulated, and signed by a large number of opposing division. The property represented by the whole number of remonstrants on both sides of the line was \$2,081,887, and that of the whole number of petitioners, \$485,000—less than half as much.

The petition—signed by Mr. O. M. Draper and twenty-five other citizens of the town—asking the Legislature to provide for a division of the town and to incorporate the incorporation of the northern portion as a new town, was as follows:

TO THE HONORABLE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, IN GENERAL COURT ASSEMBLED:

The undersigned petitioners, citizens of the town of Attleborough, respectfully represent that the convenience and best interests of the inhabitants demand a division thereof; therefore we pray that that portion of the town lying northerly of a line commencing at a stone monument situated in the westerly line of the town of Attleborough, on the northerly side of the road leading westerly from the Polly Chace place, thence easterly in a straight line to a point on the east side of the road one hundred feet southerly of the house of Howard E. Rhodes, thence deflecting to the north and following a straight line passing midway between Leprilete P. Fisher's house and the house of the late Tisdale E. Fisher, thence in the same course to the Mansfield line at a point about five thousand four hundred and fifty feet northerly of a monument at the corner of the towns of Mansfield and Norton, be incorporated as the town of North Attleborough:

O. M. Draper,	Edwin Richards,	F. A. Newell,
D. D. Coddling,	C. E. Smith,	L. Z. Carpenter,
J. D. Richards,	G. M. Horton,	S. W. Carpenter,
Geo. W. Cheever,	John W. Luther,	G. N. Crandall,
T. I. Smith,	J. L. Wells,	L. W. Dean,
O. B. Bestor,	L. M. Stanley,	G. T. Holmes,
Chas. W. H. Day,	Chas. E. Bliss,	A. M. Everett,
John P. Bonnett,	E. S. Horton,	James J. Horton,
E. B. Bullock,	A. B. Carpenter,	

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

BOSTON, November 18, 1886.

I direct the publication of the above petition in the Attleborough Chronicle and Attleboro Advocate.

HENRY B. PIERCE, *Secretary.*

After many delays and postponements which extended over a period of six months, the matter was finally given a hearing on May 10th, 1887, by the Committee on Towns, in the Blue Room of the State House. The following citizens were present on that occasion: Ex-Senator F. L. Burden, Representatives A. T. Wales and T. G. Sandland, C. T. Guild, Chairman of the Selectmen, Randolph Knapp, Town Treasurer, Rev. John Whitehill, Postmaster P. E. Brady, George N. Crandall, S. P. Lathrop, Charles E. Bliss, Lyman M. Stanley, Francis G. Pate, Charles E. Smith, William H. Gould, Philip M. Carpenter, Philip Brady, Oscar M. Draper, Henry Wexel, William J. Luther, Lucius Z. Carpenter, Albert W. Sturdy, Charles H. Wetherell, George Asa Dean, Dr. John R. Bronson, Edward R. Price, J. Lyman Sweet, William M. Fisher, Henry F. Barrows, Everett S. Horton, John Thacher, Handel N. Daggett, Elijah R. Read, Arthur B. Carpenter, Edgar Perry, George Randall.

At that time the State had but one larger town than Attleborough, and that was Pittsfield. A statement was made to the committee regarding the prior actions of the town upon the division question, and various statistics were also given relating to the size, population, etc., by the Attorney for Division. Upon the first day the evidence was confined to those favoring division, and the case was conducted by Attorney F. H. Williams. The first

person called upon to give testimony was Charles E. Bliss. The hearing extended over two days. The attorneys employed by the petitioners were Mr. Strong and Mr. Sherman Hoar. A large number of the citizens above mentioned gave their testimony upon one side of the question or the other, expressing their opinions as to the expediency of non-annexation of a separation, furnishing statistics upon a variety of points, etc., but it is not necessary to give their statements in detail here. Several expressed as their reason for desiring division the *divine conviction*. And *annexation* by government would of necessity follow, others as positively, with reasons, their conviction that expenditures would be increased. One gentleman from East Attleborough, in speaking of a fellow-townsman, said: "He is from North Attleborough, which is four miles away, and which is connected with us geographically, and in no other relation;" another, in reply to a lawyer's question as to how the two sections were connected, said: "Very much as the Siamese twins were; each does just as it pleases, but they are held by a ligament which is very disagreeable;" and his special reason for desiring separation was his word "Home Rule." On the other hand facts were brought forward to show that there were many more bonds of union between the two parts than those affected by geographical lines, those of business and social interests being especially strong in the estimation of many, and one gentleman, a resident in East Attleborough for fifteen years, made the following statement: "When I came to Attleborough there was no railroad to North Attleborough. I have seen Falls Village and North Attleborough become one village, and Falls Village and Robinsonville joined together. The two sections are connected somewhat as the Siamese twins, but let them alone and the ligament will be larger than either." Thus the unity and diversity of interests between the two chief villages was discussed until the end of the hearing. This was concluded by the vote of the Committee on Towns to act upon the suggestion of the attorney for division and visit Attleborough.

The vote was carried into effect on May 23, upon which day the members of the committee with Mr. Fred. H. Williams, the attorney for division, and Mr. Sherman Hoar, attorney for the opposition, arrived in town. They were received by a committee of six gentlemen—Messrs. E. S. Horton, C. E. Bliss, and O. M. Draper, representing the petitioners, and Messrs. J. L. Sweet, John Whitehill, and Burrill Porter, Jr., the remonstrants. The two town representatives, T. G. Sandland and A. T. Wales, with Messrs. G. N. Cromwell, L. M. Stearns, W. H. Child, J. E. Wallis, and a representative of the *Advocate*, were also of the party. A large barge to which four horses were attached was provided by R. D. Manchester, and the gentlemen were very comfortably and rapidly conveyed over the selected route, which comprised the principal streets of East Attleborough, the drive thence by North Attleboro and Falls Village to North Attleborough, which was traversed, and later in the day—Mr. E. R. Price having joined the party—the drive to

West and South Attleborough, and from there through Hebronville and Dodgeville back to the starting-point. It may interest future generations of readers, should these lines ever meet their eyes, to know that at one o'clock an interval of relaxation in the more active occupations of the day occurred, and a dinner was served to the members of this party at the Wamsutta House—a *good* one, the chronicler adds, who was one of the partakers. The committee, after this visit to the town, reported unanimously in favor of division, a rather unusual occurrence in such matters, it is said. They further introduced a bill into the Senate providing for the requested division, with an amendment which placed the expense attending the same upon the entire town as it was before the change.

The following table of figures¹ shows the relative size of the two towns, and the advantages each one may possess in certain directions, as these were estimated before the division was effected, though the two portions were to be made as nearly equal as possible in every respect.

	NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH.	ATTLEBOROUGH.
Acreage	10,143 acres,	14,166 acres,
Population (estimated)	7,100	6,900
Valuation, Personal Estate	\$756,395	\$754,897
Valuation, Real Estate	\$2,584,495	\$2,660,862
Polls	1,623	1,630
Voters (estimated)	972	900
Houses	1,186	929
High Schools	1	1
High School Scholars	44	45
Schoolhouses	11	13
Scholars (excepting High)	1,258	1,265
Churches and Chapels	8	8
National Banks, Savings and Loan Fund Associations, Water and Gas Companies, Fire Departments, Libraries	1 of each	1 of each.
Savings Banks	1	0
Hotels	2	2
Railway Stations	3	3
Postoffices	2	5
Public Property:—		
Lock-ups	1	1
Almshouses	0	1
Stone-crusher	1	0
Schoolhouses	11	13
Towns in State having smaller valuation	284	278
Towns in State having smaller number of polls	296	296

Following is the Act of Division, with the exception of Section 11, which provides that the act shall take effect before November 1, 1887, in case a majority of the voters of the town accept it.

SECTION 1. All that part of the town of Attleborough comprised within the following limits, that is to say, beginning at a stone monument situated in the boundary line between the

¹ Taken from the *Attleboro Advocate*.

with notice to the other. The commission so appointed shall sit and, after hearing both parties, determine the matters of disagreement aforesaid, and return their award into said court, and the award of the majority, when accepted by the court, shall be final; and said court may issue any writ or make any order thereon necessary to carry the same into effect. The award may be set aside for fraud or manifest error, but for no other cause, and thereupon may be recommitted to the same or other commissioners to be appointed for the same purpose, with like powers and duties as aforesaid.

SECTION 6. The town of North Attleborough shall, until otherwise provided by law, continue to be a part of the second congressional district, of the second councillor district, of the first Bristol senatorial district and the first Bristol representative district; and at all elections the inhabitants of the town of North Attleborough shall vote at polling places to be furnished within the town. The selectmen and clerk of the town of North Attleborough shall make returns of elections as if the town had existed at the time of the formation of said districts.

SECTION 7. Any justice of the peace within and for Bristol county, residing in the town of North Attleborough, may issue his warrant, directed to any inhabitant of said town, requiring him to notify and warn the inhabitants thereof qualified to vote in town affairs, to meet at the time and place therein appointed, for the purpose of choosing all such officers as towns are by law authorized and required to choose at their annual meetings, and said warrant shall be observed by posting copies thereof, attested by the person to whom the same is directed, in three or more public places in the town of North Attleborough, seven days at least before the time of such meeting. Such justice, or in his absence such inhabitant required to notify the meeting, shall preside until the choice of a moderator in said town meeting. The selectmen of the town of Attleborough shall, before said meeting, prepare a list of voters in the town of North Attleborough qualified to vote at said meeting, and shall deliver the same to the person presiding at such meeting before the choice of moderator thereof.

SECTION 8. The towns of Attleborough and North Attleborough shall bear the expense of making the necessary surveys and establishing the lines between the towns of Attleborough and North Attleborough.

SECTION 9. The town of Attleborough shall pay to the town of North Attleborough a half part of whatever amount may hereafter be refunded to said town of Attleborough from the state or United States, to reimburse it for bounties to soldiers or state aid heretofore paid to the families of soldiers after deducting all reasonable expenses.

SECTION 10. All rights heretofore secured to existing corporations upon the territory hereby incorporated shall continue as though this act had not passed.

The arguments brought by the petitioners for a division were chiefly that the size of the town was too great; that there was not one centre, but two; that these were practically the centres of two towns, as they were separated both by distance and diversity of interests; that the inhabitants already numbered too many to be properly managed by one official body, this body having for some time been broken into sectional parts; that the voters were too numerous to be satisfactorily handled at one meeting-place for the transaction of public affairs; that the rivalry existing between the two largest villages had already caused much legislation for improvements, and that the result of this legislation had been to impose burdensome taxes upon the entire town; that these and future similar burdens would be much lightened by having two towns in place of one; in fact, that economies impossible with one town could easily be practised with two, etc., and it was the opinion of some that the only alternative to division was municipal government with all its attendant expenses in the not far distant future. To each of these arguments those opposing division said in a word: "It is not so," or

"It will not be true." They argued that there was no more reason for regarding the town as composed of more than when Attleborough was a part of the Remondth North Precinct, its territory being in fact less than at that time by the removal of the Cape, now the town of Cumberland, R. I.; that voters could be accommodated and town business properly transacted under the existing conditions; that the two more populous sections were not divided only geographically, but that their interests were decidedly in many ways one and the same; and so on to the end of the list.

The day appointed for deciding this long talked of and important matter was July 30th, 1887. Previous to this time great efforts had been made by each side to turn the tide of the popular vote in its direction. Party spirit had run high, and party feeling was very deep. To both sides equally this seemed a question of vital interest to the good of the town, and in the eyes of the one side and of the other, whichever way the scales should turn, so strong were the convictions and so bitter and pronounced was the partisanship, it seemed as if the life of the town hung upon the balance, and its whole future prosperity depended upon the issue. Such being the conditions, it is greatly to the credit of our citizens that when the momentous day arrived they conducted the necessary business in the most quiet and courteous manner. One says: "In all the precincts it was very orderly and quiet. Officers were present to enforce order if necessary, but they had literally nothing to do but to kill time."

In North Attleborough little if any opposition work was carried on during voting hours. The voting was done in the old Universalist Church building, and the polls in that precinct were closed at 4.10 p.m. At Attleborough the gathering was a larger one. Several gentlemen opposed to division did considerable "quiet work," while others were active upon the opposite side. Here the polls were opened in the Engine House on South Main Street and were closed at 4.30 p.m. At South Attleborough one man especially was very active in bringing opposition voters to the polls at Merry Hall. The citizens there and in the west part of the town had been decidedly against division from the commencement of the last movement in that direction. The polls there closed at 4 p.m., and the result was no uncertain one.

We again quote the words of another: "It was noticeable at the polling places that most every man who voted was decided in his mind, and while attempts were made by both sides to influence, they were practically abandoned early in the day. Another pleasing thing to record is that the utmost good humor prevailed. There was good-natured chaffing, and occasionally some one was excited into a little louder tone of voice than common, but considering the importance of the occasion and the earnestness on both sides it was remarkably quiet, and highly creditable that it was so."

The official count stands as follows: —

	Yeas.	Nays.	Total.
North Attleborough	234	371	605
East Attleborough	414	180	594
South Attleborough	17	91	108
Total Yeas			665
Total Nays			642
Whole number of votes cast			1,307
Majority in favor of division			23

Thus by a small majority this great question was decided, and out of the single town which had lived and prospered for almost two hundred years two entire towns "fully armed and equipped" were called into existence. Apparently the matter was settled, and it was generally supposed that it only remained for the citizens of each section to assemble and in due form to elect the several officers required, when the whole of two small but separate governments would be set in motion. This was accordingly soon done. On the tenth of August the new officers for ATTLEBOROUGH were duly nominated at a meeting held on the evening of that day in Park Hall. On the following evening the citizens of the new town assembled in Engine Hall and nominated the officers for NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH. The first town meeting of the new town was held in the old Universalist Church at ten o'clock A.M., August thirteenth, and the officers previously nominated were elected with a few changes. In Attleborough the first meeting was held on the same day in the South Main Street Engine House, when the officers already nominated were elected by an almost unanimous vote. At this meeting on motion of A. T. Wales the following vote was passed: "As the Agricultural hall, where we have formerly held town meetings, has ceased to be within the limits of the town of Attleboro, by reason of the setting off of part of the territory, the selectmen are instructed to notify the Attleboro Agricultural Association that the occupation of their property by the town of Attleboro, will be discontinued from this date."

The new officers were not however allowed to commence their duties at once. The result of the decision made on July thirtieth had scarcely been announced when rumors of attempts to challenge the legality of the vote were heard, and two days thereafter it was stated that the town treasurer would decline to turn over the funds in his hands to any other official. It was also stated that, should the citizens attempt to hold meetings for the nomination and election of new officers, injunctions would be issued against them. Nine gentlemen from North Attleborough and one from Attleborough united in petitioning for an injunction against both the officers who proposed to hold the meetings and those who were to serve the necessary warrants for the same. A delay occurred, and the injunction was not obtained in time. All that could then be done was to give formal notice of the expected injunction, and such notices were sent to the meetings in both places. As has been seen, however, the meetings were held and the officers nominated and elected.

After that the petition for an injunction was amended, and it was suggested that the same officers should be forbidden to act and the said ones directed not to recognize them by transmitting any public funds to their hands. The two gentlemen who presented the petition were Edward R. Price, T. A. Burdett, H. F. Barrows, Leta Lyette Dimes, C. B. Thompson, J. G. Burden, F. S. Williams, John B. Curtis, John S. Elliott, and H. M. Daggett, and Oliver Benson served notices upon F. J. Balch, C. T. Gould, O. M. Draper, Elijah Connor, J. T. Bates, and R. Knapp, commanding them to appear before the Supreme Judicial Court, in Taunton, upon the first Monday in October, 1887, in answer to the complaints preferred by the petitioners. The hearing was given upon this petition by Mr. Justice Holman of the Supreme Bench, but he ruled it out of court on the ground that a few citizens were not sufficient to bring an action under such circumstances.

Following this decision, Mr. Knapp petitioned as town treasurer "for a writ of mandamus to compel the three collectors of the old town, who still continued as collectors under the act authorizing division, to pay over to him whatever public funds they might have in their possession." Messrs. Bennett and Teel were the attorneys engaged for Mr. Knapp by his supporters; and the collectors, though still nominally the defendants, "authorized Messrs. Gaston & Fales, through the selectmen of the two towns, to act for them." Mr. Gaston entered a demurrer to the effect that, the collectors having given bonds not to any one person but to the town, legal proceedings against them must therefore originate with the town, and Mr. Knapp's petition could not for that reason be legally granted. This case, with the demurrer, it was decided should be reported to the full bench.

Finding a final decision thus still unreachd satisfactorily, the gentlemen who originated these steps toward undoing the action of the town made one more attempt in favor of carrying out their project. They were gentlemen whose motives were well understood. They saw only injury and no benefit to their native town in division and honestly deemed it to be their duty to do all in their power to prevent the action from going into effect. Their reasons were respected, though their course may have been deprecated by many as unnecessary and unwise. Following the last-mentioned proceedings, a writ of *quo warranto* was sued for in the name of the Attorney-General. The petition for this alleged that Mr. Knapp was acting illegally as Town Treasurer. Messrs. Bennett & Fales were Mr. Knapp's counsel in this case, and F. B. Byram was selected to represent the Attorney-General. The counsel, though nominally opposed, were "in reality representing but one side." The attorneys agreed upon a statement of facts, which they presented to Judge Holmes for his decision. One of the facts alleged was that some fifty or more persons who desired to register were illegally deprived of their right to do so; another, that the meetings were not held at the "same time" in the three towns; because they were at different hours. Judge Holmes at once

decided that this new presentation and the connection its counsel had with the former petitions to the court involved complications, and he therefore requested Mr. Gaston, also previously connected with it, "to enter into the case for the Attorney-General." This he consented to do and proceeded to dispute "the alleged facts," disproving the one in which it was stated that a certain number of voters were unlawfully deprived of their right. Upon the suggestion of the judge that this was not material to the points in dispute, Mr. Gaston "finally assented to the proposition that that number might have registered had the opportunity been given." This point was immaterial because there was no means of deciding that the result would have been changed had fifty or more other voters cast their votes. Testimony was given to the effect that the two towns were then acting as such, and it was admitted by one of the counsel that they were "two towns *de facto*." The ruling of Judge Holmes was "that the provisions of the division act were declaratory and not mandatory. That is, while certain things were provided to be done the failure to do them did not render the division invalid." The natural further ruling was therefore that the office of town treasurer formerly held by Mr. Knapp was legally vacant, and this involved a further ruling in favor of the collectors, who could not be ordered to pay any moneys into the hands of a man thus unauthorized to receive them. This decided the case "in favor of the respondents who thereupon appealed to the full bench."

The case was *practically* ended, and the work of the two towns went on under the officers duly elected. Before it "was reached in the full court the legislature intervened and by their act ratified the proceedings, and rendered any further action by the court unnecessary."

ACTS AND RESOLVES. March, 1888. Chap. 98. An Act to confirm the proceedings of the town meeting of the town of Attleborough, held on the thirtieth day of July in the year eighteen hundred and eighty-seven.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECT. 1. The proceedings of the town meeting of the town of Attleborough held on the thirtieth day of July in the year eighteen hundred and eighty-seven for the purpose of accepting the provisions of chapter four hundred and twelve of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and eighty-seven, being an act to incorporate the town of North Attleborough, shall not be invalid by reason of a failure to designate polling places in the several voting precincts of said town of Attleborough, or of a failure to make any necessary registration of voters; and the acceptance of said act by said meeting is hereby ratified and confirmed.

SECT. 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage. [Approved March 6, 1888.]

Shortly subsequent to the decision of Mr. Justice Holmes on the division question, the annual town meetings for the election of State officers occurred. Attleborough continued the Republican majority so long maintained in the community of East Attleborough, and the Republicans of North Attleborough were especially desirous of establishing the record of their new town with a Republican stamp. The meeting there was a very lively one, both parties being determined to score a victory, and the result was an unusually

large vote, seventy-seven per cent. of the whole possible number of votes being cast. The majority was a good one in favor of the Republicans, and the whole party there was properly highly jubilant over their success. Red fire and fireworks were displayed in great abundance, a band — White's — was secured, and a thriffling procession was formed, which, under the able leadership of Mr. John B. Peck, pursued its brilliant and enthusiastic march through all the principal streets of the village, which were well filled with interested spectators.

When the result of the vote was made known, from all sides the new town received cordial welcomes and hearty congratulations from sister towns, and many good wishes for a future of ever continuing prosperity were expressed. So North Attleborough started on her new career under most fair and promising circumstances. We too wish her every measure of true success and as honorable a record of her own as has been heretofore the record of the mother town; but most of all we wish she was still a part of the one old town, and that the long talked of question had been one of *closer union*, not of *dismemberment*.

In telling the story of Division we have endeavored to simply relate facts as they have been presented to us, adding but few comments. It is not yet time (1888) to pronounce upon the merits of this decision. All opinion, even the most decided, upon resulting benefits or injuries is only conjecture, all prosperity upon the one hand, or all adversity upon the other, can be equally only prophetic. From the nature of the case, it must be years before the results can be accurately known and measured, therefore upon the next generation will devolve the duty of pronouncing a correct judgment as to the good or ill of this act of their fathers. We cannot pretend, nor is it necessary here, to express an opinion upon the arguments so strongly urged in favor of a separation, but we have no doubt that the great majority on both sides of the question were entirely sincere in the opinions they severally held and that they said and did looked to the good of their communities and the town or prospective two towns. We have no doubt also that many in all parts of both the towns, while properly acquiescing in the decision made by the citizens and yielding their allegiance honestly to the new town or the old as it may be due, still wish most strongly and deeply that no change had been made, and that ATTLEBOROUGH was still one in territory and in name.

To record the fact of division is the one sad task that devolves upon us in our attempts to complete this historical sketch commenced so many years ago. We can but think somewhat of our own personal regrets in the matter, but most of all we think as we write of the deep sorrow it would have caused him whose work this book is. His efforts would have been tireless and unceasing to prevent that but he would have seen in it no possible good, but every possible ill. Had he lived until the day of its completion, that would



have been one of the saddest of his long life, and the fact that the house in which he was born stands not in the old town, but in the new, would have deepened and intensified his sorrow. He loved every inch of the great town's territory as a *whole*, and to divide it asunder would have savored of cruelty to him: and though he would have been glad that the portion in which he for the most part lived — where his personal interests were most deeply centred — still retains the well-loved name, the fact could never have brought to his mind any adequate compensation for the change which he would have looked upon as one promising only irreparable deterioration and loss. Since it was so to be, we can but rejoice for his sake that his hand, which penned so many of these lines with pride and pleasure, was spared the pain of making such an ending to his work, and that this deed was not done until his voice, always raised in urging forward everything that would benefit the town so dear to his heart, had been silenced in the grave.

CHAPTER VII.

THE CIVIL WAR.—EFFECTS UPON THE TOWN.—EXPERIENCES AND
 REMINISCENCES OF SOLDIERS, ETC.

APRIL, 1861, saw the opening act of a great drama, the greatest of modern times. Rebel guns opening fire upon Fort Sumter gave the signal, and the curtain rose. Four years this play was acting, one grand scene after another forming itself upon the stage before the eyes of an observant world. April, 1865, saw the closing act. The sword of our great general, offered by him to another, gave the signal for the curtain to fall. The awful tragedy was ended, and again, as before in the days of our forefathers, all our people were free. Even the children of that day can recall how the booming of those first guns startled the whole land. Through its length and breadth the echoes rolled, sounding their evil tidings, and from every section of the North and every station in life men hurried to offer themselves both to do and to die for their imperiled country. As in the days of the Revolution the men of our town were foremost in opposing oppression and wrong, so now when danger threatened the Union they responded promptly to the call for help. Scarcely had the echoes of those cannon-ralls away when our citizens took measures to assist in maintaining the existing government.

The selectmen of the town at that time were H. N. Daggett, A. H. Robinson, and Lewis L. Read. They issued a warrant for a town meeting, which bears date April 24th, 1861, in which one of the articles is to ascertain whether the town will do anything for the men who may be called to enter upon "actual service in the defence of our country, in addition to what is offered by the United States." A town meeting was held May 3d, and the following article was passed:—

ARTICLE II. "Voted that the treasurer of Athol should be authorized to borrow the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars, (\$10,000) to be appropriated for military purposes as far as required. That from the above sum those men who enlist in this town and are called into actual service, shall be paid a bounty of Fifteen Dollars, (\$15 00) and Fifteen Dollars a month in addition to the sum to be paid by the United States; and that each man who is accepted for service shall be paid Ten Dollars a month while drilling, and shall be furnished with such uniform as the military authorities require."

A warrant bearing date May 17th was issued, in which one of the articles

was to see if the town would appoint a committee to appropriate the military fund which had been raised. Agreeably to the call a town meeting was held May 25th. Among the votes taken at that time was the following:—

ARTICLE V. “Voted and chose the Selectmen a Committee to appropriate the Military Fund raised under a vote of the town on the third day of May, 1861.”

In a warrant dated June 4th, 1861, were the following articles:—

ARTICLE II. “To see if the town will vote to furnish each volunteer in addition to the garments already furnished, one Flannel Blouse, Fatigue Cap, a Havelock, Eye Protectors, and one pair thin Pants, agreeably to a petition.”

ARTICLE III. “To see if the town will vote to furnish a drum and fife for the musicians of the Company, agreeably to a petition.”

ARTICLE IV. “To see if the town will vote to uniform the Commissioned Officers, and furnish them with Regulation Swords, Pistols, and such other equipments as they require for service, agreeably to a petition.”

ARTICLE V. “To see if the town will vote to instruct the Selectmen to pay the Volunteers while drilling, agreeably to a vote of the town passed on the third day of May last, agreeably to a petition.”

ARTICLE VI. “To see if the town will vote to raise a committee to carry into effect the foregoing provisions, and authorize them to draw upon the Military Appropriations for the expenditures.”

The town meeting was held June 12th, and the selectmen were instructed “to furnish such additional items of uniform” as they could legally do under the appropriation. Articles III and IV were dismissed. The selectmen were further instructed to pay the men at the rate of ten dollars a month while drilling, and they were the committee chosen to carry these votes of the town into effect.

Previous to this time, in response to President Lincoln’s Proclamation of May 3d, 1861, a company had been formed in this town, the enlistment being for three years—or more—from the time of being mustered into service, which was June 15th. This was Company I, Seventh Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers. For a month these men had been drilling, paying from their own pockets for instruction, two “Boston Cadets” being hired to come to town for that purpose. The officers were: captain, John F. Ashley; first lieutenant, William W. Fisher; second lieutenant, Charles B. Des Jardins; third lieutenant, Eben L. Sylvester; sergeants, E. E. Kelly, Baylies B. Richards, P. M. Whiting, William H. Wade; corporals, John E. Paige, John N. Hall, James M. Day, Charles W. Snell, and eighty-five privates, only two of whom were from another town.

In August, 1861, a warrant was issued, in which it was suggested that the town vote upon the question of aiding the wives, children, and parents of volunteers, both in the militia and in active service, when they were in need of such aid, also as to the propriety of extending such aid to other relatives

in case of their dependence upon the volunteers. At the town meeting held September 24th it was voted to authorize the treasurer to anticipate the TAXES to be levied and borrow a sum of money sufficient to aid wives and children and others dependent upon the volunteers, both in the service and in active service.

In 1864 the selectmen were H. N. Daggett, A. H. Robinson, and J. A. Perry. In July of that year a warrant was issued, calling upon the citizens to meet and decide what bounty should be offered to encourage enlistments to fill the quota of the town under the President's then recent call for more troops, to decide upon the manner of furnishing those bounties, and "to see if the town will vote to pay their Volunteers who enlisted in June 1861, to fill up Co. I, 7th Reg. agreeably to a petition."

The town meeting was held July 21st, when it was voted "to adopt the following Resolutions offered to Hon. John Daggett."

Resolved, That we the Selectmen of Attitash, fully representing the town of the two institutions upon which we have so long and so prospered, and upon the success which threaten the existence and well-being of the Republic, are each bound to be our part in sustaining these institutions and transmitting them unimpaired to those who shall come after us.

Resolved, That we deem it our duty to take immediate measures to furnish the quota of Volunteers for this town under the recent call of the President of the United States.

Resolved, That the Selectmen be, and they are hereby authorized and instructed to pay from the Treasury of the Town a bounty of One Hundred Dollars (\$100) to each and every person who shall enlist in this town as a Volunteer in the Service of the United States, under the present call of the President, and shall actually enlist and accept his service.

Resolved, That the Treasurer of the Town be, and he is hereby authorized to borrow the sum of \$40,000 from the United States Treasury, and to disburse the same for the purpose and to give his notes therefor.

"Voted to authorize the payment of Fifteen Dollars bounty to those who enlisted from the town to fill up Co. I, 7th Reg. in June 1861, if they are still in the service, or have been honorably discharged." It was also voted that the treasurer should borrow a sufficient sum of money to carry those measures into effect, and that a committee of nine men, three from each part of the town, should be chosen to assist the selectmen in recruiting. This committee were the following gentlemen: Willard Buckinton, E. Ira Richards, Elisha G. May, L. W. Dean, L. W. Daggett, H. K. W. Allen, Ira M. Conant, Stephen Richardson, Stephen A. Knight.

"Voted to request the Selectmen to extend aid to those sick soldiers who have been discharged from service."

"Voted the thanks of the meeting to Hon. John Daggett, for his address and services on this occasion."

"Voted that H. N. Daggett be a committee to have the proceedings of this meeting published in the *Union Gazette and Democrat*."

It soon became evident that a higher bounty must be offered, to enable the town to supply the necessary quota, and a town meeting was called for

August 6, 1862. It was then voted to offer a bounty of \$200,000 and the treasurer was authorized to borrow the necessary sum of money. This bounty was to be paid to all who should enlist "on or before the 15th day of August." The selectmen were authorized to see that these measures were effected, and instructed to pay no bounties later than the date appointed. It was also voted "to choose a Finance Committee of three," and Ezekiel Bates, L. W. Dean, and E. Ira Richards were the gentlemen chosen.

August 14, 1862, the following warrant was issued:—

ARTICLE II. "To see if the town will vote to pay a bounty of One Hundred Dollars to each inhabitant thereof who shall volunteer and enlist into the service of the United States on or before the first day of September next, towards filling up the quota of said town under the present draft of the President for Three Hundred Thousand nine-months men; agreeably to a petition."

ARTICLE III. "To see if the town will vote to pay a gratuity of One Hundred Dollars to each inhabitant thereof who enlisted in Co. I., 7th Mass. Reg. and is now in the service of the U. S., or to his family if deceased before or since his honorable discharge; agreeably to a petition."

ARTICLE IV. "To see if the town will vote to pay a gratuity of One Hundred Dollars to each inhabitant thereof who has enlisted in any other Mass. Reg. and to his family or those dependent upon him for support, if deceased before or since his honorable discharge; agreeably to a petition."

ARTICLE V. "To see if the town will vote to authorize their Treasurer to raise sufficient money for the town, and to transact such other matters and things as may be required to carry into effect the above articles."

At the town meeting held August 23d, it was voted to pay the men who should enlist for nine months before September 1st, the bounty of \$100. Frank S. Draper and L. T. Starkey were chosen a recruiting committee for these nine-months men. Article III was referred to the military committee which had been chosen. Article IV was also referred to some committee to report at some future time and place. The treasurer was authorized to borrow such sums of money as should be needed to pay the bounties for these nine-months men and "to pay all bills for examining recruits, and charge the same to the Military Account." Some resolutions presented by Mr. Lyman W. Dean were adopted, and a copy of the same ordered to be sent to the Captain of Co. I, and to be printed in the *Taunton Gazette and Democrat*. These resolutions were as follows:—

Resolved: That we the Citizens of Attleboro' in town meeting assembled do highly appreciate the Military Services of the members of Co. I, 7th Mass. Reg.; that we remember with gratitude that they promptly responded to the call of our country, when the shrill clarion of war sounded to arms for the purpose of crushing out a wicked rebellion.

Resolved: That we hold in grateful remembrance the sacrifices which they made when they left behind them the loved ones at home, and all the endearing associations that clustered around the domestic altar, and exchanged these comforts and pleasures for the stern duties of the camp and the battlefield.

Resolved, That we send one or more persons to the State, and that we petition the Legislature, and by our influence and means, to procuring that important matter to their consideration, and that we petition the Legislature to supply the deficiency of arms and accoutrements.

Resolved, That a list of those residents be supplied the Arms, Captains of Co. I and presented to the Town meeting.

A warrant with various articles was issued September 14th. The questions were as to the number of men (if eighty-three) to whom the hundred-dollar bounty should be paid; as to instructing the treasurer to arrange for the necessary funds; and as to instructing the selectmen to pay the recruiting and other necessary charges and collect the amount from the State. Several of the articles of the aforementioned warrant were dismissed, but the town voted "to instruct the selectmen to pay the bounty to the nine-months volunteers to the number of thirty-five as the quota of the town."

During this spring and summer a company of nine-months men had been forming in town. There were seventy-six members exclusive of commissioned officers, and they were claimed by the city of Boston as a part of its quota. This company went into camp at Boxford, this State, and there on September 18th, 1862, they elected their officers: captain, L. T. Starkey; first lieutenant, F. S. Draper; second lieutenant, E. S. Horton; sergeants, H. A. Burchard, J. H. Godfrey; corporals, H. S. Adams, S. G. Bassett.¹ September 24th they were mustered into the service of the United States and organized as Co. C, 47th Reg. Mass. Vol. Infantry.

The selectmen for 1863 were H. N. Richardson, A. H. Robinson, and J. A. Perry. In July of that year came an order from the War Department for a draft. This town was in the second district, and the draft took place at Taunton. Attleborough was the first town called on the drafting for sub-districts. Four hundred and four ballots were put into the box, and from these one hundred and twenty-one were to be drawn. Of this number fifty-three were exempted under the law. The names of these men will be found in the succeeding chapter.

A warrant for a special town meeting was issued July 27th, 1863, containing the following articles:—

ARTICLE II. "To see what action the town will take with regard to reimbursement by the State of bounties paid to volunteers as provided in Chapter 118, of the Acts of the Legislature, approved April 2d, 1863."

ARTICLE IV. "To see if the town will vote to aid the families of drafted men, as provided in Chapter 176, of the Acts of the Legislature, approved April 2d, 1863."

ARTICLE V. "To see what measures the town will adopt for rendering assistance to such of our citizens as may be called into the service of the United States under the Act of Congress approved March 3rd, 1863, in such

¹ The names of the officers and company were not found in the records of the town.

manner as may be deemed expedient, and also to their families while they may be absent in said service. Also to take any legal measures that may be deemed expedient to carry any vote the town may adopt in relation thereto into effect; agreeably to a petition."

The town meeting was held August 3d, and under Article III the following resolution was passed:—

“Resolved: That the town elect to raise and pay its proportion of the tax provided in Chapter 218 of the Acts of 1863, in accordance with the 9th section of said Act.

“Voted that the town furnish aid to the families of drafted men as provided in Chapter 176 of the Acts of the Legislature approved April 23, 1863.

“Voted to dismiss Article V from the warrant.”

November 18th, 1863, Captain Everett S. Horton was appointed “Recruiting Officer for the 58th Reg. of Infantry” (3d Veterans) by order of “His Excellency, John A. Andrew, Governor and Commander-in-Chief” of this State. Forty-nine men enlisted in town in this regiment, thirty-seven of them in Co. C, of which Captain Horton became chief officer.

The same selectmen were chosen for 1864. March 29th of that year a town meeting was held, at which it was voted to refund the money subscribed by citizens for recruiting purposes, and that the treasurer should be authorized to borrow sufficient sums to carry the vote into effect.

April 4, 1864. At a town meeting lawfully warned it was voted “that the town raise a sufficient sum of money by taxation, to be applied under the direction of the Selectmen, in aid of, and to procure its quota of Volunteers under the call of the President, dated March 14, 1864: Provided that the amount of money so raised and applied, shall not exceed the sum of One Hundred and Twenty Five Dollars for each Volunteer duly enlisted and mustered into the service of the United States, as a part of its quota.”

“Voted that the Selectmen be, and they are hereby instructed to cause the amount of money so raised and applied, to be assessed upon the inhabitants of the town in the annual assessment for the current.”

“Voted that the treasurer be instructed to borrow a sufficient sum of money, on temporary loan, (and issue notes of the town therefor,) to carry out the foregoing vote, and hold the same subject to the orders of the Selectmen for this purpose.”

“Voted that the Selectmen be instructed to act as recruiting agents in filling the quota of the town under the present call, and that they be authorized to employ such means as are necessary to accomplish the purpose.”

At a special town meeting lawfully warned and held May 24th it was voted to reimburse the subscribers to a recruiting fund raised after the call of the President, February 1st, 1864, for 200,000 troops, and the treasurer was authorized and instructed to take proper means to pay the necessary sums to the citizens. At the same time the town took the following actions:—

"Voted to choose a Recruiting Committee of three persons to assist the Selectmen in filling up the quota of the town. Chas. H. N. Daggett, J. R. Benson, G. D. Hatch."

"Voted that the Recruiting Committee be instructed to fully investigate the matter of the deficiency of the credits to the quota of the town."

"Voted that the Selectmen be instructed to cause the amount voted this day to be reimbursed, to be assessed upon the inhabitants of the town in the annual assessment of the current year, provided it can be legally done, and not to exceed Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars, or the amount reimbursed."

A warrant was issued June 6th, 1864, and the town meeting was held June 14th. At this time the joint committee appointed at the previous meeting made their report as follows:—

"The committee presented to the town, and ascertained that the deficiency of the quota under the town call, was 24 men, according to the account given by the Provost Marshal, and that a draft had actually been made for that number. After making payment thereof, and accounting it with the Marshal, and the Adjutant General's office, we discovered that the names of about seven had not been passed to our credit. We presented our account to the Provost Marshal, enclosing additional credits for that number, and succeeded in having the whole paid, thus reducing the quota deficiency to 17 men. To reach this balance, and fill the quota, the committee have paid the compensation of six men at \$300 each, and of one man at part \$100, making \$2070 out of the funds contributed by subscribers. The committee have also received and assigned about 200 \$100 certificates, which together with the 10 additional credits makes 28, leaving a surplus of 8 towards another call."

"Voted to accept report of committee." It was also voted that the town should reimburse to the subscribers to the recruiting fund a sum not to exceed \$125 to each volunteer, provided the subscribers should order the sum to be paid by the treasurer subject to the order of the selectmen, to be used to obtain volunteers; should future calls for troops be made. The selectmen and treasurer received the proper authority to cause this measure to be carried out, and the town also voted that the committee of three chosen should be "a Recruiting Committee to act in conjunction with the Selectmen."

A legally warned town meeting was held August 2d, 1864.

"Voted that the town raise a sum of money not to exceed One Hundred and Twenty Five Dollars (\$125) per man, to procure the quota of the town under the last call of the President of the United States, dated July 18, 1864, for 500,000 troops."

"Voted that the sum of money necessary to carry the above vote into effect, be assessed in the annual tax of 1864, and the treasurer be authorized to borrow money in anticipation of receipts from the same."

A special town meeting was held November 19th, 1864, to hear a report of the recruiting committee. The "majority report" was made by five of the six gentlemen forming that committee. And following are some extracts from it:—

"The committee finding it impossible to obtain recruits at home except at

most exorbitant prices, and learning that there was a prospect of obtaining them at Washington and vicinity at very low rates, met and chose Mr. George D. Hatch, and Dr. J. R. Bronson as a sub-committee and as agents of the town to proceed to Washington at once, and recruit our town's quota, upon the best terms possible." At this meeting it was voted "to pay Messrs. Hatch and Bronson their traveling expenses, and other proper expenses, and a reasonable compensation per day for their services; and Messrs. Hatch and Bronson accepted the proposition and proceeded at once to Washington." They met with but little success, as the Secretary of War had issued an order forbidding agents from the States to recruit in the District of Columbia, and Dr. Bronson returned home. Mr. Hatch, having learned that men could be obtained at the front, secured the proper pass and proceeded to the Army of the Potomac at Petersburg (on his own account), where he engaged sixty men and had them mustered into service to the credit of the town. Returning to Washington, he telegraphed for \$9,000, which was sent him by the committee. Then he returned home, subsequently, however, making three other trips for recruiting purposes. From this time complications seem to have arisen as to the number of men, the charges for them, etc., all of which matters are set forth at length by the committee. Upon the presentation of Mr. Hatch's claim for enlistment bounties and his services in obtaining the same, the committee agreed that it was exorbitant in its amount and therefore in violation of his agreement with them, and they referred the entire matter back "to the town for their consideration and disposal." This report was dated November 19th, 1864, and signed by H. N. Richardson, A. H. Robinson, J. A. Perry, H. N. Daggett, J. R. Bronson.

The minority report was also presented to the town at this meeting, and in it Mr. Hatch gave an account of his work upon the trips made for the purpose of recruiting soldiers, giving the number of men obtained, circumstances, etc., detailing his reasons for actions taken, stating clearly the position he had taken and his reasons therefor, and offering to submit the decision in the matter to a committee of disinterested men or to a court of law. This report was signed by George D. Hatch. This matter remained unsettled for several years, but was finally adjusted. Further details would be of no special interest, and enough has been said to explain the presence of "Regular Army" soldiers credited to our town, for whose services considerable sums of money were paid.

December 19th, 1864, the President issued a call for 300,000 troops, and a town meeting was called to take necessary action on the matter.

January 21, 1865. "Voted that the Recruiting Committee be, and are hereby instructed, to use whatever money or moneys they may have in the Town Treasurer's hands, subject to their drafts, to procure volunteers in anticipation of a call from the President for men."

The selectmen for 1865 were Wilket Blackington, A. H. Robinson, and J. A. Pease. The annual town meeting was held April 1st.

“Voted that the Treasurer be authorized to borrow money to continue the payment of aid to families of volunteers. Voted to raise Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) to be applied in part payment of the indebtedness of the town on Military Account.”

A town meeting lawfully warned was held April 1st, 1866. “Voted to continue the payment of state aid to the families of volunteers.” A warrant dated March 21st, 1867, contained an action with reference to appropriating money to pay men who were drafted and furnished substitutes for themselves. At the meeting held April 1st it was voted to discharge that article from the warrant and to refer the continued payment of State aid to families of volunteers “to the judgment of selectmen.”

At the annual town meeting held April 6th, 1868, it was voted “to continue to pay State aid to the families of soldiers in accordance with the provisions of the Laws of the Commonwealth.” A meeting was called during the same month to see if the town would vote to pay a balance due to members of Co. 1, 7th Regt. Mass. Vol. who enlisted prior to May 23d, 1861, but no action was taken. A second meeting was called for May 4th, at which the following action upon this matter was taken: “On motion of L. W. Dean it was voted: That the members of Co. 1, 7th Regiment, Mass. Vol. who enlisted in the service of the United States, and the widows, fathers, and mothers of said soldiers who died in said service, who enlisted prior to May 23d, 1861, be paid the balance due each of them for their first three months service agreeable to a vote of the Town, and the Law of the State passed May 23d, 1861. Amended as follows and voted: That all honorably discharged members of Com. 1, Seventh Reg. Mass. Vol., who were or are citizens of Attleboro’, and who enlisted in the service of the U. S. prior to May 23d, 1861, and the widows, fathers, and mothers of any of said soldiers who died in said service, be paid the balance due each of them for their first three months’ service, agreeable to a vote of the Town, and the Law of the State passed May 23d, 1861.”

“On motion of F. C. Whipple it was voted that a committee of three be appointed by this meeting to ascertain who the members are, also the amounts due them, and that Charles Faas and John C. Thayer be included among said members. Voted that the committee be appointed by nomination. L. W. Dean, J. R. Briggs, and H. N. Daggett were nominated, and by vote declared elected.

Annual town meeting for 1869, held April 1st, “Voted to pay State aid to the families of disabled soldiers as last year.”

Annual town meeting held April 4th, 1870, “Voted to pay State aid as last year.”

The following records may be of interest to some persons as reminders of occurrences during the war, and they are therefore given.

We the undersigned who have subscribed and paid to the fund to aid in procuring the quota of Attleborough under the call of the President for 500,000 additional troops dated Oct., 1863, and Feb., 1864, hereby authorize and order the Treasurer of the town, in case the amount we voluntarily contributed to promote enlistments should be ordered to be reimbursed to us by vote of said town, under a Statute approved March 18, 1864, to pay said amounts to the Selectmen or other recruiting officer, or officers legally appointed for the town, to obtain the quota of the town under the last call of the President for 200,000 more troops, and this order with the receipts of the recruiting officer or officers shall be your vouchers therefor.

James H. Horton,	Albert C. Jillson,	Geo. F. Knowles,
F. W. H. Knowles,	Albert A. White,	J. Claxton Wightman,
D. O. Stanley,	Eliphalet White,	Isaac Draper,
Arnold Jillson,	William P. Shaw,	John Doran,
George W. Sadler,		A. M. Read,

Another paper similar to the above, bearing date June 7, 1864, was prepared, in which the call of Oct. 17, 1863, for 300,000 troops only is mentioned, and the subscribers authorize the treasurer to pay the money to the selectmen or recruiting officers, in anticipation of a future call. This was signed by the following citizens:—

A. M. Everett,	Addison M. Knight,	John Cooper,
G. A. Dean,	C. B. Des Jardins,	E. Sanford,
O. S. Thayer,	P. H. Short,	James L. Briggs,
F. Robbins,	W. S. Lincoln,	Albert E. Briggs,
A. F. Lee,	H. S. Adams,	A. S. Blackinton,
A. Robbins,	E. Bartley,	Wm. P. Shaw,
J. Sweet,	W. E. Robinson,	J. H. Sturdy,
H. A. Capron,	J. M. Cummings,	E. S. Capron,
Peter Nerney,	C. H. Sturdy,	S. W. Carpenter,
Nelson Smith,	George W. Handy,	N. J. Smith,
Mace B. Short,	D. Clafin,	Caleb E. Parmenter,
Frederic D. Bliss,	B. A. Cummings,	Arthur B. Carpenter,
John Dennis,	F. L. Cummings,	Z. B. Carpenter,
George W. Curren,	S. E. Briggs,	H. D. Parmenter,
George M. Leonard,	Jacob Briggs,	Dexter Parmenter,
George W. Lee,	Israel N. Williams,	S. A. Knight,
Charles E. Bliss,	Jonathan Fuller,	A. Chatterton,
Hiram Jones,	N. H. Bliss,	Michael Mc—,
Horace G. Cutting,	G. N. Bacon,	Edward Corbett,
David L. Tucker,	William Bowen,	Nelson Briggs,
Nelson Carpenter,	A. E. Walton,	Elisba E. Wilmarth,
J. B. Briggs,	B. B. King,	Benjamin Bowen,
Samuel Bromley,	G. R. Adams,	Seabury W. Bowen,
Cyrus Briggs,	Abner Witherell,	Simeon Baker,
Joab Briggs,	Darius Briggs,	Abner Witherell, Jr.
Milton Freeman,	G. H. Cummings,	Jonathan Follett,
Joseph H. Witherell,	G. D. Hayward,	R. Thayer,
B. C. Ingalls,	H. N. Daggett,	Geo. O. Dunham,
G. J. Ingalls,	A. Capron,	Wm. M. Fisher,
James Mugg,	S. B. Staples,	Ela Door,
William Slater,	Edwin E. Weaver,	Hiram Fisher,
B. Harvey,	Chas. A. Weaver,	Thomas Fuller,
	Patriek Butler,	H. M. Daggett,

Vouchers on file on account of Reinforcements of Bounty to Attleborough.

The number of men enlisted from the town in three years service is 320.

The aggregate bounty paid is \$20,565. A bounty of \$15 has been paid to 107 volunteers. A bounty of \$300 has been paid to 63 — total 170.

These records of the war are very incomplete, for they show only the outline of the work accomplished by our citizens at home and nothing of what was done by our soldiers in the field. It must always be deeply regretted that someone connected with the public work of the town did not realize the importance of keeping full accounts of the actions of those stirring times as they were transpiring. Such accounts would be of great interest not only to the actors themselves now at the close of a quarter of a century since the events took place, but of ever increasing interest and importance to the coming generations, who must learn by records or tradition of what their fathers did to preserve the union of our great country.

We have seen how prompt our men were in avowing and proving their patriotism in the days of the war, and the women of our town were equally so. They freely gave of their best to their country, bravely bade Godspeed to husbands, brothers, and sons as they left their homes, and then set to work with willing hands, though aching hearts, to furnish such comforts as they might to those who had gone to serve in the field.

At a town meeting held May 3d, 1861, the following communication was presented:—

The ladies of Attleborough wait only an opportunity of testifying their deep interest in the cause of freedom, and their earnest faith that our flag shall be kept unsullied. They rejoice that the present crisis has proved beyond doubt that brave, unselfish heroism still exists in our land, roused by no pulse of passion, but beating with the calm, determined will that treachery has roused, and only victory shall appease. Their wishes and sympathies are with our brave troops, and in preparing clothing for those who go from their midst, they offer speedy, cheerful, and zealous hands.

Abby W. Capron,	Mrs. Cherra M. Blackinton,
Molina S. Capron,	Mrs. Lydia S. Bliss,
Mary J. Capron,	Mrs. Ann J. Hodges,
Mrs. Angelina Daggett,	Miss Sabra C. Peek,
Mrs. Lucy F. Daggett,	Miss Sally M. Peek,
Mrs. Sally Daggett,	Miss Nancy M. Drown,
Mrs. Lydia M. Peek,	Miss Sarah F. Drown,
Mrs. Rebecca C. Blackinton,	Mrs. C. J. Holman,
Mrs. Mary D. Richardson,	Mrs. M. Dean,
Mrs. Harriet A. Blackinton,	Miss Mary A. Wheelock,
Miss Lizzie C. Blanding,	Mrs. Emily E. Cooper,
Miss S. J. Mann,	Mrs. Charissa Blackinton,
Miss Lizzie W. Martin,	Mrs. C. E. Blackinton,
Mrs. A. Allen,	Mrs. P. F. Blackinton,
Mrs. C. F. Bronson,	Miss Belle Capron,
Miss Lizzie Thompson,	Miss Sarah S. Kelly,
Miss Mary McClatchy,	Miss Mary Nerney,

At the same town meeting the following vote was adopted:—

“Voted to present a vote of thanks to the Ladies of Attleboro, for their kind assistance offered to prepare clothing for those who may leave this town to serve their Country, and record the same with names attached.”

Just as our men worked all through the war with unflagging zeal, so our women were tireless in their efforts to supply some of the needs of sick and

scarified soldiers in the hospitals or to add little comforts to brighten and cheer their lonely dreary lives in camp and field. Sewing societies were formed in various parts of the town: at the North, the South and West, and at the East villages; at Dodgeville, and hundreds of other villages or high-roads. These met at the churches or at the homes of some of the ladies and were attended by those of all ages. Children helped to pick lint or make bandages, the clergymen cut and make garments, and old ladies of eighty gave knitted socks at their homes. Unfortunately no records have been kept of this work, but many barrels of comfortable, well-made clothing, many thousands of yards of soft bandages, and many pounds of lint were prepared by these eager, eager hands and sent to the front.

In the East village, as no doubt elsewhere, the society was called the Soldiers' Aid Society, and it met weekly in the vestry of the church. Mrs. Ladden, Mrs. Lyman Dean, Mrs. N. C. Lusher, Miss Miriam Capron, Miss Sally Peck, and others were among the leaders in the work. The ladies here arranged fairs, which were very successful, and several times a hundred and fifty dollars were made at these. A reading circle was in existence at that time, which met once a week, and at this the ladies always busied themselves with knitting stockings, the tops of which were red and white to form the patriotic combination.

All the work done was not done in common at the frequent society gatherings. Many who could not leave their homes had work given them to do there, and not the least earnest in this labor of love were those women upon whom, in the absence of husbands and sons, had fallen the chief burden of the support of their families. Facts and figures may and should be compiled and preserved, but the full history of such history as these can give is written by any human pen. Who shall say, however, that they are not in every such case important factors in working out the grand result? While we honor our soldiers and citizens for their noble record of the War of the Rebellion, we will honor our women also, for "they did what they could."

REMINISCENCES, EXPERIENCES OF SOLDIERS, ETC.

A few reminiscences of the early days of the war have been obtained from some of the ladies who were engaged in the fitting out of the soldiers who first enlisted in town, and several old soldiers have kindly given us an outline of their companies' marches and actions, adding some personal experiences of their times of active service.

As has been seen, enlistments began very early. General Orders No. 8 was issued by Governor John A. Andrew on April 22d, 1861, and under these orders Company I was formed in this town. Arms being supplied, the next want was proper clothing. "The town was very liberal in furnishing all that was required" in the way of material, and the ladies agreed to make it up. In 1861, although they met in the fall of the previous year,

those ladies who were able to do so, and others, took work to their homes, while the old ladies whose eyes were too dim for sewing at once began to knit socks. The uniforms were cut by a tailor. They were of gray cloth, with short, close coats, and military buttons. They were to have been trimmed with red, but that order was countermanded, as it was thought the color "might be a mark for the rebels." Mrs. Benjamin Pratt was one of those most active and efficient in that part of the town and held many meetings at her house, where subsequently undergarments, lint, and bandages were also prepared.

In East Attleborough the ladies met in what is now "Union Hall": Miss Abby Capron was the head of the committee, a position she was well qualified to occupy, and upon her devolved the care of the undergarments. The tailor came from North Attleborough to cut the suits, and Miss Angenette Starkey took charge of the basting, which occupied her for eight days, even with the able assistance, a portion of the time, of Mrs. Stephen Pierce, whose efforts deserve special mention, because, as some may remember, it was with great difficulty that she could get to the hall to work, owing to the disapproval of some members of her family. To this day Miss Starkey remembers thankfully her "happy thought" in having the name of each soldier pinned to the various portions of his suit, in order to insure the proper coming together of the right legs, arms, and bodies. But for this, it is easy to imagine the mixtures that would have resulted, mixtures which no shaking — though as vigorous as that in the "Valley of Dry Bones" — would have been able to make right. There were several sewing machines in the hall, one a Mrs. Wilkinson's, another Mrs. Dr. Sanford's, and, if the memory of our informant is correct, the doctor himself helped to use it in the good cause. Men, women, and children were all eager to work and "did with their might *whate'er* their hands found to do." Any work was man's work, any work woman's work, that either could do. The ladies, it is said, brought "spider web silk" to make the clothes with, and Major Holman went to Providence to procure the proper kind, and "Alcott Hardin was press man." The work went on here for over forty days with "the hall full in the afternoons," and the story for North Attleborough would doubtless be much the same, for nearly a hundred men had to be made ready. Besides his suit, each soldier was supplied with two flannel shirts, two pairs of drawers, socks, a havelock, and a bag "containing all the necessary articles for mending his clothing." The ladies attended also to providing the blankets. Mr. Lyman Dean presented the insignia for the caps, which were raised gold letters and were made in Taunton, and to each soldier he gave \$1.50 worth of postage stamps.

Of the one hundred and five men in Company I, only nine were not of our town. The company's drill ground was on the "old Tom French place," as it was then familiarly called, on the road from the Farmers to Robinsonville,

where there was a riding track of a mile in length, and before leaving home "the company would march around the track in fifteen minutes." This was the goal with which our officers went to work to make soldiers of themselves when the necessity came, and the result was certainly worth all the months' time and sweat, while unaccustomed to such exercise. Their gymnasium was in the basement of Whittier's new shop at North Attleborough.

The day before they left town for camp, Sunday, Captain Ashley preached to the company in the Baptist church, and the following morning they met at four o'clock on the common in front of the church. Many can recall the sad scenes of that early morning, for almost everybody in that part of the town came there to say "good-bye" and "God-bless." The company marched to East Attleborough, where in Union Hall they found a fine spread awaiting them, "but the boys did not feel much like eating." The clerk, Mr. Wade, was obliged to take charge of calling the roll, "the orderly sergeant not feeling it was his duty." No one can wonder at that sergeant's feeling or blame him for shifting such a duty in such surroundings, for the *whole story* is told in the simple phrase of the clerk himself: a man whose bravery was unquestioned, and he says: "It was the hardest work I ever did."

The Seventh went into camp first at Taunton, where they remained for a month (from June 14th to July 12th, 1861) — and where on June 16th day were mustered into the service of the United States, the regiment promising "to serve for the war, or for three or five years." Four of the companies were stationed in the old Exhibition buildings, I and K together, and just opposite them Company E, who were called "the Dorchester Owls," because they were always awake at night. The first night there was no sleep for anybody. Boots flew here and there to the accompaniment of every variety of catcall, and there was a general and lively "good time." Whenever officers called for quiet, of course a few seconds sufficed to set every man snoring lustily for the time being. All this fun, however, did not make careless soldiers, but quite the contrary. Indeed, only recently, Colonel Couch in referring to the Seventh Regiment said that its discipline and attendance to duty were the same during those few days in camp before it entered the United States service as they were afterwards, and its reputation in those respects is too well known to need comment here.

In July came orders to proceed to Washington. Very many can remember the twelfth day of that month. The hour when the train bearing the Seventh was to pass through the East village was known, and from all over the town people collected at the station. The old depot platform was crowded with pale-faced women and excited children, all eager for a hand-shake and good-bye with those who were now to go to the front and learn the terrible lessons of real war. The train stopped some moments at a little distance from the village and then rushed swiftly through it, and the waiting

ones had only the merest glimpse of loved faces, and the echoes of a hundred voices mingled in parting phrases. This was the last seen of, alas! too many a dear one, for the Seventh reaped the reward of active service and returned from that journey with sadly thinned ranks.

In passing through Baltimore "they were obliged to load up" and had no opportunity to appease their hunger. Their first night in Washington was spent in the Capitol, where rations were served them. One of the men says: "We *slept* in marble halls, and did not need to *dream* of them." The first permanent camp of the Seventh was Camp Kalorama in the hospital grounds, where they remained until August 5th and then removed to Camp Brightwood, a temporary camp near Brightwood, on the right side of Seventh Street. Upon a certain occasion here one of the courses on the bill of fare proved to be "meat rather lively." The regimental taste not being sufficiently educated to enjoy that as an article of food, it was decided to make another disposition of it, and the Fall River companies A and B got out their drums and to the "Dead March in Saul," or something else, "buried it with appropriate ceremonies." Later the camp was changed to a spot between Seventh and Fourteenth streets, on which latter street was the hospital, then a hotel, the place being now occupied by a race ground. While here Company I had the measles and Henry Davenport died.

The winter was passed in this place and barracks had to be constructed. The trees were found in the woods not far away. Trunks were dug out, logs set down in them, and the chinks filled in with mud. Some of the ends were run up together to form peaked roofs, and the tents were opened and spread over these as a covering. The chimney to each barrack was built with logs and mud, cobhouse fashion, and had a fireplace. Each company had four buildings, and each squad had a sergeant and two corporals in it. Before the barracks were erected the men had had A tents, but after leaving camp they had only shelter tents, of which each man carried a portion. Even these they were without for some time and were obliged to form shelters for themselves as best they could by putting two of their rubber blankets together and fastening them with wooden pins.

In March, 1862, the regiment was sent to Prospect Hill, as a forward movement was expected. Here they had "rain, mud, and no shelter": so our men occupied themselves in building huge fires of whole trees and drying one side while the other side was getting wet. The return march to camp was through mud knee-deep, with a little variety in wading Rock Creek in water waist-high. Company I, however, were most cheerfully welcomed at their barracks with roaring fires, hot coffee, etc., prepared by Mr. Des Jardins, who, being ordnance officer, had been left in camp and so "could look out for his men." We fancy some of the Company I "boys" can feel the warmth of those fires and smell the fragrant odors of that steaming coffee even now. The last of March orders were received to start for the Penin-

sons. These were ordered so promptly that the regiment was at Columbia College barracks, so after consulting in the grounds the colonel returned to camp. The morning following their return, however, transports were taken to Fort Mifflin, and the Seventh regiment at Camp Smith, beyond Hampton, and Big Bethel. The next day was Warwick Court House, in the woods, where first of all was done with the exception of Yorktown. Thence our way proceeded to the fight at Williamsburg, and the night preceding they camped in a wood, where the men took a cheerful way of consuming food by tramping down their backs.

Not long after this our informant, then the First Sergeant of Company I, had to make a little digression. After an exposure to the rain of thirty-six hours' duration, he was compelled to submit to a siege of toothache, and just about the time the southern army was evacuating its position several of his hitherto reliable dental members were by order of their commander quitting their stronghold, like the "rebs," never again to become possessed of their former fortifications.

The day following this battle of Williamsburg, which was a hard one, though the number of troops employed was not very large, the regiment had a march of twenty-five miles, a most severe one, for the day was intensely hot and many fell out by the way on account of the heat and lack of water. From this time on the regiment was actively engaged in the skirmishing line all along the Peninsula. This line of drill had been that of the Seventh, and our Attleborough "boys" were especially interested in it. Upon one occasion, when two companies had been ordered out, and one of them was too slow, it was with pride and pleasure that Company I obeyed an order from their colonel to "go out and go faster." Company I took part in the battle of Fair Oaks, which began May 31st, 1862, and this was their first experience of real fighting. At this time Lieutenant Des Jardins was commanding the company, and here Sergeant Fans lost his leg by being in what would ordinarily have been another man's place. At this battle the regiment was surrounded, and was released by General Sumner. At that time Lieutenant Whiting was with the company, and as they were preparing to camp for the night a man met him and inquired for some North Carolina regiment, so Mr. Whiting at once took him to the colonel as a prisoner. This camping-place was a meadow where the men had to lie on their guns to keep from the wet, and with only pants, shirts, and blouses. The summons to the battle had come while they were preparing dinner, and being still a little new to the usages of war they left everything as it was, taking only their guns. The battle over, they were minus coats, blankets, food, and utensils, and they had nothing to eat from Saturday morning until Sunday night, when they received "one hard tack apiece." The day following this battle they "had a chance to fight a little" from behind a railroad, and two of the company were wounded.

Soon after this they returned to a camp near the former old one, and having lost their clothes, equipments, etc., they had to be newly supplied. They remained in this place until June 25th, when they went on to the picket lines. This was the commencement of the seven days' fight before Richmond. Company I had some skirmishing and was engaged in the battle of Malvern Hill and in one cavalry encounter at Charles City crossroads. At Malvern Hill their position was on rear ground, where they could overlook the battlefield — a great plateau filled with men — and witness the fight.

After this our men camped for six weeks near Harrison's Landing in a fine wheatfield, building breastworks several times as they moved about; and here many were ill from the effects of poor water. Next by transport to Alexandria, and, horses being delayed, the officers had for a time to test their marching powers on foot with the men. Directly after the second battle of Bull Run, our company was among those who went back following Lee, but between him and Washington. They were in the battle of Antietam and lay one night on the field, where Mr. Wade as orderly sergeant "tried to waken a dead man." They followed the "rebs" for a while and finally went into camp at Downesville, Md., where they remained until October. Being ordered to move, they crossed the river at Berlin, where they had "to make the muster rolls in the night on empty cracker boxes" with dew-dampened paper, and then went on into Virginia, camping at New Baltimore.

November 9th General Burnside took command of the Army of the Potomac and soon made a move down toward Fredericksburg, and Company I was in the battle at that place on December 13th, 1862, when "Terrill was killed and Snell wounded." During this year Colonel Russell left the regiment, expressing at parting from his men many regrets at being obliged to leave them. The regiment was rather unjustly treated in this respect, having had five different colonels placed in command over it. This was one of the times when jealousy waxed rampant over the eastern army, when the chief fighting seemed to be over the question of a commander, who was no sooner appointed and ready for action than he was superseded, and the men were occupied in "waiting for orders" or trying to obey contradictory ones.

The Seventh stayed near Falmouth all the winter of 1862-63 and were in the famous "Mud March," as it was called, when the great Army of the Potomac "marched up, and then marched down again." Its next fight was the battle of Chancellorsville — second Fredericksburg. Here Company I lost its captain, Prentiss M. Whiting, and the command devolved upon Lieutenant Wade. Company D lost in this fight nineteen out of forty-one men, and Company I suffered severely. A. Bartlett Keith, Alexander Corey, Edward Dean, and Andrew Farrell were all wounded in the leg, the former severely, the latter slightly; Henry Graff, in the shoulder severely; J. Allen Tillson, in the hand slightly; John A. Whaley, in the abdomen

seventy) and James B. Tisdale, mortally in the foot. This was the largest list of casualties in the company at any one time.

Mary's Heights was one of their battles; another, Salem Church, where we were repulsed. On this occasion Company I had "simply to stand still and be fired at from three sides." Their orders were to attract the attention and fire at the enemy, while others of our men should flank and surround the same, and we may be sure Antietam's boys stood their ground stoutly. During this fight the entire regiment was surrounded and lost continuously. During the day following — a Sunday in May, 1862 — the Seventh were cut off entirely from our army. In the late afternoon a tremendous thunder-cloud arose. Taking advantage of this circumstance and leaving a skirmish line with a battery which opened fire upon the enemy in the dark, under cover of this friendly cloud the regiment marched away, and finally all succeeded in crossing a river in safety and reaching their own lines once more. They returned to the old camp near Falmouth and from there marched fully two hundred miles to get to Gettysburg for the famous July fight.

Their last march to reach the battlefield was one of forty miles. They had finished the regular day's march, "pitched camp and just got to bed," when the order to "pack and fall in" came, and by the mistake of the guides they were taken in the wrong direction, marching forty for thirty miles. This long march ended, they halted by the roadside, and had just made coffee when the order was received to "push on double quick for Round Top," and they did speedily push on to its foot. The Seventh belonged to the Sixth Army Corps, and the appearance of this corps "disconcerted the enemy, and saved the second day's fight." The next day our company was in the reserve force, was here, there, and everywhere in the midst of the fight, but not in the front. On the "Fourth" — the closing day of the great fight — they were on the front line again, and on the fifth were "after the enemy." Later they were in Washington and still later went into winter quarters at Brandy Station on the farm of the famous ironmaster, J. Mingo Boys. While there they engaged in the fight at Stone Mountain across the Rappahannock.

In May, 1864, they were ordered from Brandy Station to the Wilderness again, where heavy fighting was continually going on, and many were killed. They were fighting day after day in woods so thick the enemy could not be seen. It was continually — "March to-night, and fight to-morrow." At Spottsylvania a charge was ordered without a skirmish line into a thick pine wood across a wet meadow full of mud and slime. Here both Union and Southern lines overlapped each other, and Company I lost several men. Later a skirmish line was formed, and the next day the pickets had a little encounter with the enemy. Our pickets at this time were kept on duty for more than twenty-four hours, Lieutenant Wade and others from Company I being among them. The former was frequently "detached for special

duties," the performance of which one not a soldier could readily see required more than the ordinary courage and judgment. Several "big fights" occurred about this time at or near Cold Harbor and were the last in which our "boys" of Company I were engaged, for on June 15th, 1864, they left the front for some point on the James River, whence they were transported to Washington and New York. There they were greeted with an oration and no doubt the accompaniment of a generous meal. From New York they journeyed by the Stonington Line and on to Taunton, their coming a surprise, no telegram having announced it. Their discharge papers were not received until July 5th, though they bore date June 27th.

And now Company I was at home again; and how proudly and heartily they were welcomed after those three years of faithful service in fighting for "the land we love so well"! Alas that, of the hundred who went forth strong and hopeful, less than half came back whole and vigorous! Had only a half dozen returned, that would have been joy enough for the whole town to make itself jubilant; and from everywhere the people came to greet the thirty-seven and give them a public ovation, even those whose loved ones slept beneath southern skies or in the neighboring kirkyards joining in those happy services for the comrades of their dead.

In true New England fashion, with procession and music and waving banners, under the open sky, this glad reception was given. Brightly clad school children, singing joyful songs, followed by their no less happy elders, escorted "the returned soldiers" to "Pine Grove," where there was a "bake." What else could there have been for men who had not tasted a *clam* for three years? The delicious fumes of that steaming coffee in the Washington barracks at the end of the long day's march in the rain and mud were forgotten as the appetizing odors of this weed-crowned bivalve greeted their nostrils. What a contrast to their last meal together when they left the old town! Then no one could eat, now no one could help doing it; but there was enough for all, even a feast: for Attleborough bakes don't fail.

After the feast, toasts and speeches were in order, on this occasion filled with words of pride and joy, but always with a vein of sadness running through them, as thoughts recurred to absent forms and empty places. Very often during a long period of years the duties of toastmaster devolved upon the writer of this book, and it was so upon this occasion. A few of his special words of welcome to Company I have been found among his forgotten papers and are given here because they may bring to someone a pleasant memory of that now long-past happy day.

We have not come here to make formal speeches to you, but to give you a hearty welcome home, — a welcome back to old Attleborough, this spot from which three years ago you took your departure for the unknown scenes of an opening war. But how few of those who filled your ranks on that occasion, are here to-day. Is this Co. I? How many have fallen on the battlefields of their country, or died in its camps, your thinned ranks too painfully attest.

port for New Orleans. They were eight days in reaching Ship Island and from there went under sealed orders. They landed at Carrollton, some seven miles above the city, and went into camp at Greenville, where they had been but a few days when they were transferred to the United States barracks, seven miles below the city, and from there to the city itself, where they were placed on provost duty. At Carrollton, where the first landing was made, all the houses about were full of rebel sharpshooters; during the first night, and John Sullivan, having ventured out from shelter, was shot through the leg. A little excitement occurred here, but not of a martial nature. One solitary man, a Frenchman, had remained at Carrollton in charge of his own or someone's plantation, and he had two slave girls there. Hearing an outcry, some of our soldiers entered his house and found he had whipped one of these slaves with great severity. The colonel of the Forty-seventh sent him at once to Tortugas. One can readily understand the indignation of a northern man over such a deed, especially at that time, and his promptness in using his authority to punish the offender. The dislike manifested by the people of New Orleans for northern soldiers is well known, but we are told that "in the French portion of the city — on the contrary — they were very hospitable." The Forty-seventh was kept for a number of months in New Orleans, "because it was the best drilled, best dressed, and best appearing regiment of any that went to that city."

Company C had no skirmishes in the city, but upon one occasion three companies, C among them, went up the river to Baton Rouge under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Stickney, "and there had a pretty hard skirmish." Several men were wounded, but not severely. "Hartshorn, Alger, and Bassett died at New Orleans from fever, and one man left the regiment, and has never been heard from since." Captain Starkey resigned in January, 1863, receiving from his company, and the band and line officers of the regiment, testimonials regarding his care of his men and attention to their wants, his interest in the regiment, etc., while he was a member of it. On returning home he became again a recruiting officer. He was stationed at Providence, where he had charge of raising and shipping off battalions. He commenced recruiting on the breaking out of the war, and during its continuance he enlisted 1,084 men in the States of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Upon Captain Starkey's resignation, by a unanimous vote of the men Lieutenant Horton became captain of Company C, and soon received his commission. Under his charge the company retained to the full its share in the excellent reputation the Forty-seventh had gained. There were but few casualties in Company C, because its term of service was almost entirely occupied with provost duty. The regiment was ordered to Fort Hinson, but the fight was ended before its services were required.

These men enlisted for nine months, but they served for nearly a year. They were mustered into service September 25, 1862, and on August 5, 1863,

they left New Orleans for home via the Mississippi River. At Cairo they took passage and the entire journey east was a continued ovation. They were met at every stopping-place with enthusiasm and received the most loyal attentions from the people everywhere. They were mustered out at Readville, September 1, 1863, and were received at home with the hearty greetings of the whole town, which turned out to welcome them.

February 20, 1864, fifty-two men from this town were mustered into service in the Fifty-ninth Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteers, the majority of them in Company C. Several of these men were veterans, having served in the Forty-seventh. They camped at Readville, leaving there April 28, and on May 1 they reached the Wilderness, participating in that series of bloody battles. During this time some of our "heroes" were taken prisoners, and from one of them we have heard of some of the expedients resorted to in the prison pens to keep up the spirits of the prisoners. Officers often clubbed together to invent stories of battles in which the northern armies always came off victorious. Such tales brought cheer and a little comfort to the privates, and when one had been often enough repeated, a fresh one was made up. Trapdoors were often cut in the prison floors, and when men were attempting to escape some comrade left behind dropped through these doors from room to room to keep up the requisite number in each at ration time to cover the absence of the runaways. Some Attleborough men died in those horrible prisons; others were enabled to conquer despair and live on through months of that awful existence until release came. Some of those who survived were completely shattered physically; some regained a fair degree of their former vigor, but all must carry through life the effects of those days of terrible suffering and endurance.

The Fifty-ninth served until the close of the war and was mustered out July 14, 1865.

In Companies I and H, Twenty-fourth Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteers, there were a number of men from Attleborough. They enlisted in the autumn of 1861, going into camp at Readville and from thence to Fort Warren to do garrison duty "while the regiment was being up." They were in that place when Massie and Sibley were brought there. On December 9 the Twenty-fourth started for the seat of war, accompanied by Gilmore's band, of Boston. They went to Annapolis and became a part of the Peninsula expedition. The men were at Rappahannock and Newbern among the earlier battles of the war, and later they were in North Carolina and its vicinity for some nine months in the Department of the South under General Hunter. They participated in the sieges of Forts Sumter and Wagner and were engaged all through the well-remembered Morris Island Campaign in 1863.

Subsequently the regiment, much reduced on account of ill-health, was sent to St. Augustine and Jacksonville, where we may hope the weary war-worn veterans drew in health and vigor from the bracing air and cool sea breezes.



1. Residence of General B. B. ... 2. Residence of Charles P. ... 3. Residence of J. ... 4. Residence of ...
 5. Residence of Mrs. B. ... 6. Residence of Mrs. W. ...

and found themselves refreshed in courage for all coming encounters in that atmosphere still tinctured with the memories of valorous deeds "in the brave days of old." They were engaged in the Olustêe fight, and there George Horton and John Cummings were taken prisoners and had to experience the horrors of Andersonville and Florence. At the latter place Mr. Cummings escaped by tunneling and succeeded in getting out some distance, but his attempt soon became known, and he was followed by men with dogs and recaptured. The failure of one attempt, however, only made him the more determined upon another effort to regain his freedom, even in the face of the frequent penalty, death by the guard's musket. In these efforts he was irrepressible and embraced every possible opportunity to effect his escape, though in the end it was only effected by exchange.

From Florida the men of the Twenty-fourth went back to Virginia and were attached to the Army of the James under Butler. At the end of two years the opportunity came to reenlist for bounty, an opportunity which was embraced by about half the men in the Twenty-fourth; and the regiment was re-formed in Virginia. Among those who declined reenlistment was Charles P. Dirke, who had been a soldier of the Second Empire. He came home; but the habits of the soldier proved to be too firmly fixed to be easily thrown off, and in a week's time he was in Hancock's Veteran Corps. He was one of the guard at the gallows when Mrs. Surratt was hanged and was among those who assisted to pick up the remains of the soldiers who are buried at Arlington.

Our "boys" of the Twenty-fourth were in Grant's army and had the experiences of those days of continual and brilliant fighting through the "summer of '64." They had but little fighting during the following winter, but in "the spring of '65" they were again with Grant in his last grand campaign just before the close of the war, when from the White House to the hovel the whole country watched with breathless interest for the issue. The Twenty-fourth was among the first regiments to enter Richmond after Lee's surrender and was ordered on provost duty there.

These few facts are enough to show that the services demanded of these men were varied and sufficient to prove that they were "true and tried" soldiers. Some of these men — some of ours among them — served for five years, for the Twenty-fourth was among the last, if not the very last regiment, to return home. It did not reach Massachusetts until January, 1866.

Over one half — fifty-four men — of Company H, Fortieth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, were from our town. They enlisted early in August, 1862 (about the 7th), "took the oath" at Boston on the 13th, and on the 18th went into camp at Linfield. They were "quartered in the old meeting-house" with another company from Taunton and had straw to sleep on. Attempts were made by many on this first night to get some rest, but there was "too much noise to sleep." The next camping-place was Boxford,

where they remained but a short time. They were immediately mustered into the United States service September 1st, 1861, and on the 8th they left for Washington. They remained there just except those at Fort Sumter) until Allen Street on 1 June 1861. The men were marched fifteen times with full equipments, and found fell out. They lay down on the ground, and of any sort of a resting-place, and in the night a shower came up. The men were so tired that they slept; but in the morning guns, etc., had to be dug up out of the mud, while the river running hard by, proving to be of the same bright color as the clay, gave no very encouraging prospects for immediate cleanliness.

September 25th, says Mr. Everett B. Bliss' diary: "Detailed for wood and water." The men had to fell big trees, rather unusual work for most of them, learning to wield an axe not being quite so important a part of the average Yankee boy's varied education as to wield with great dexterity that remarkable instrument, the jackknife. The journal for the evening of that day reads thus: "Ed. Crandall, Horton, J. Savery, are singing, 'We're tenting tonight boys.'"

October 18th the regiment moved to Miners Hill, about fifteen miles out of the city, and went into winter quarters in stockaded tents. December 27th came the first long roll, when "all fell in, every man to arms." They had a quick march of sixteen miles in a snowstorm to Mile's Cross Roads to intercept some cavalry. They speedily fell in to the general army custom of helping themselves to the shelter of any houses to be found. At this place Mr. Crandall was injured. They remained for three days, and then, no cavalry having been seen, it was concluded the alarm was false, and the regiment returned to camp. Among the varied records of the journal is the following: "Miners Hill. Called at midnight for *drilling* and picket duty." March 30th the men went to Vienna, another trip of about fifteen or sixteen miles, "carrying three days' rations." During this time they experienced real New England weather — snow eight inches deep and "only shelter tents for use"; so the men resorted to seeking for shelter "in every conceivable place, from a hotel to a pigsty, but singing, 'We're marching along. We're marching along.'" This expedition ended like the former one by a return to camp.

On June 23d, 1863, the regiment broke camp and went to join the Army of the Potomac at Yorktown. Here our "journalist" had a little personal encounter and had to cry mercy to his foe. He told a Yorktown man he had never seen an oyster too large for him to swallow and rashly, as the sequel proved, intimated rather strongly his belief that such a one could not be found anywhere. The old man accepted the challenge, took Mr. Bliss out in his skiff, picked up and gave to him an oyster which was too large to be swallowed whole; so the soldier "had to give in." If the oyster was eaten, it is certain that it was excellent. The quality of the large oysters of that

region is only equaled by their quantity and not excelled by those of corresponding size anywhere else. This statement may be made with little fear of its being challenged.

We find our men next at White House Landing on the river above Yorktown, where they remained a week or two, and then returning to Yorktown they took transports for Washington. Reaching that city, they started at once to join Meade's army at Gettysburg; but on the way their train collided with another, and this disaster delayed them for two days and made them too late for the battle. They, however, reached Fredericksburg, where they were "within sound of the guns." From this place they were ordered to the Potomac to lay pontoon bridges for the army to cross, crossing themselves to Warrington Junction, where the Army of the Potomac went into winter quarters. The Fortieth was soon ordered to Alexandria and thence on to Fortress Monroe, landing at Newport News. The men were ordered to prepare for a long sea voyage. Just as they had their washing hung out, "everything extra being left at Fredericksburg," the long roll sounded, and as no delays in answering that call are allowed, the result was "they were an absurd looking crew." They were put upon a boat from which a thousand prisoners had just been taken, "and," the record adds, "it was not clean." This boat was their abode for four days and nights, when they reached Charleston, S. C., and landed on Folly Island.

The next day they were detailed to the front at Fort Wagner, where they met the Twenty-fourth Regiment. At this place each Regiment had to be at the front in turn two days in every week. While here Mr. Bliss and several of his comrades of the Fortieth "called upon Ed. Dean," whom, as the cook of his company, they found making doughnuts. It is perhaps superfluous, in speaking of New Englanders, to add that "a feast ensued." The Twenty-fourth at this time was in most excellent condition — completely equipped, with good uniforms, all other necessary clothing, accoutrements, utensils, etc.; while the Fortieth, as we have seen, had almost nothing. Naturally boasting obtained, followed by a lively war of words between the members of the two regiments, and particularly between our townsmen, whose opinions upon the contrasts in appearance were expressed with the utmost frankness and in most generous measure. About this time orders came to the regiments on Folly Island to the effect that after three months' drilling, etc., the best regiment among them should be mounted, as a compliment. At the end of the stipulated time it was announced that the Fortieth had "won the prize," and they were sent to Hilton Head, where they received their horses, and soon after they went by orders to Florida, "to Camp Finigan, just out of Jacksonville." Before parting with their friends of the Twenty-fourth, they took the opportunity thus given to return the compliments which had been so freely bestowed upon them. This turning of the tables was made the most of and all debts to the Twenty-fourth paid with

at seven o'clock, the Fortieth, with other regiments, started for Lake City, but found the enemy on the way at noon, and then and there began the battle of Olustee, "one of the stubbornest of all the battles," a real hand-to-hand fight, where our soldiers waited until the enemy were within ten feet of them before they rushed forward to the encounter. The enemy were at this time really victorious, "but did not know it." The Fortieth belonged to what was called the "Light Brigade," Colonel Guy V. Henry commanding. He was a leader who always said "Come," not "Go." At one time they were in line of battle, which was a *single* line, and for a moment the men seemed inclined to get nervous. Seeing this, Colonel Henry coolly stepped out in the front and gave the cavalry some drill orders to relieve their nervousness. The men at once responded, and with cheers, which the enemy mistook for greetings to reinforcements and so considered themselves beaten. That this nervousness was but momentary and had no effect upon the fighting qualities of our "boys" is well attested, for the Fortieth was complimented for both coolness and bravery at this same battle of Olustee.

Our troops after this retreated to Jacksonville, and the Fortieth went again to Camp Finnigan, where they remained until they were ordered to the Army of the Potomac. The Twenty-fourth were with them on this journey. They landed at City Point and for some days were occupied in marching up and down from place to place to mislead the "rebs." May 9th our record reads thus: "Called at 2.30 to march, went to Chester Station; tore up the track and ruined the railroad between Petersburg and Richmond, stopping communication." At this time the Eighteenth Corps went on toward Richmond, getting between that place and Fort Darling, where the enemy were massed in large numbers, and finally proceeded to Fort Darling, having several encounters with the enemy on the way. In front of this place, on May 20th, 1864, Captain Jenkins of Company H was captured; he was "wounded and missing." John C. Wilmarth and some others were captured, F. B. Bliss, Francis Doran, Edgar Freeman, and others were wounded, Parks and Slade were killed, and John O. Wilmarth was wounded. He died subsequently at Newport News. After this there came a day of both skirmishing and heavy fighting, in which several of the regiment's officers were wounded, and the command of Company H devolved upon its corporal, Job Savery. In a skirmish that day "one hundred and fifty men went out, twenty were wounded, and two killed outright." After the day was over someone said: "We have had no rations"; and John Bullock, with vigorous smackings of his lips, exclaimed: "I wish I had a piece of custard pie."

May 29th the Fortieth left Bermuda Hundreds and went to City Point. Arriving there the following morning they took transports for Fortress Monroe. The boats ran aground the next night, but got back to White House Landing. The men marched through the rest of the night, having only a short bivouac, and in the morning, as they were nearing Cold Harbor, they

and the Seventh. The order was to charge, "and the Fortieth opened the ball." Bridges, Harding, and Elliot were wounded, and Lieutenant-General Marshall, formerly captain of Company H, was killed. "The regiment lost six hundred from a squad" and our old saddle became this as "hard riding." The next day the fighting continued, and Elmer Hedges was wounded. June 30 was the heaviest battle at Cold Harbor. It was short but very severe. On that day James Short, M. C. Kent, and Everett Ross were wounded, and Lester Perkins was killed.

The Fortieth left Cold Harbor on June 13 and went to Fortress Monroe, laying there, however, almost immediately for Richmond, as was supposed, but they landed at Bermuda on the 14th, and went to Point of Rocks near there. They were in the center on the heights of Petersburg—a wooded ridge—where two hundred prisoners, two pieces of artillery, and some cavalry were captured. In that day's fight Company H had ten men on duty, and in the regiment there were *seventy-five* only, the numbers were so much reduced by the long sick list. On June 15 "twenty-one guns were captured, the 40th in advance." The following night they were in line of battle all night and had some fighting. A little later they returned to Bermuda Hundreds and to their old corps, the Tenth, and were given a day of rest. At this time there was more or less skirmishing every day, and on the 24th our "boys" of the Fortieth were in more fighting. During that day some hundred and fifty prisoners were taken, "who seemed glad to get into our lines."

The Fortieth was for ninety days at Petersburg and under fire the entire time, never being out of range of the enemy's artillery. On June 30 our men had the heaviest artillery fighting they experienced. Two hundred pieces were belching fire for four hours unceasingly, and at the end of that time a charge was ordered which resulted in many casualties, several to the Fortieth. After this the Bermuda Hundreds were sent back and were allowed to rest and recruit for two weeks; then returning to the front at Petersburg they once more took their turn "in being in line." On July 30 "Burnside's Pete" was charged and the fort blown up, causing a "horrible slaughter."

The following winter the Fortieth was quartered at "Chapin's Farm" on the James River, and the "boys" were sent to fight there. In the spring they received orders to take transports for Fortress Monroe, and they went on to Yorktown, where they "captured a train of cars containing tobacco and cotton." Then up the Potomac under the agreeable orders to convey a little excitement into one of the enemy's camps. Accomplishing this they returned to Fortress Monroe and later went to White House Landing with transports containing rations for Sheridan's cavalry "when he came around Richmond." The Fortieth marched with him to Deep Bottom and from there went to the old camp at Chapin's Farm. "In a day or two came

that grand Monday, when our men marched into Richmond, and helped to put out fires, and straighten out matters." The Fortieth was occupied in that city, remaining until it started for home. The members were mustered out June 16, 1865, at the expiration of three years of hard service faithfully and valiantly performed.

There is no difficulty in reading much between the lines of even a scanty report like the above; but, find what the imagination will, or add to the story as we may, the result will fall far short of the truth in showing the amount of labor and suffering which fell to the lot of our devoted soldiers in this war for the Union—a lot they accepted with a patience, a cheerfulness, a courage unrivaled.

When our Attleborough "boys" of the Fortieth reached the town, the ladies of the East village were holding a festival. With what pleasure and pride they invited Company H into the hall and how generously they treated every member scarce needs to be told. Whatever our ladies undertake to do is well done, and when we remember what this joyful occasion was, we are sure fair hands heaped high the plates of refreshing ice-cream and culled the choicest flowers for those blue-coated veterans. These were the last decorations the old uniforms received, and to some we are sure they were dearer far than sleeve-band or shoulder-strap, for, as dainty fingers fastened those nosegays on the worn and faded coats, shy, bright eyes and smiling lips told the tale of other victories won and other prizes gained than those of the battlefield. There was never a true soldier, least of all an Attleborough soldier, who would hesitate in his decision regarding the personal value of these two rewards. Thus the story of Company H reaches its close. The "boys" are exchanging hearty greetings with old familiar friends in the old familiar place, one sorrow only mingling with the universal joy—the thought that many who went forth three years before did not return with their comrades to join in the happy congratulations and to receive the gladsome "Welcome home."

Among the incidents connected with the war, a veteran of Company I, Twenty-fourth Regiment, relates the following. He speaks of "a series of war-meetings," which were held in town when enthusiasm was roused to the highest pitch, when men burned to show their love for their country and threw themselves promptly "into the breach." At a meeting "held at the old town house soon after the attack on Fort Sumter, John Daggett, speaking from the platform, said: 'Who will be the first to enlist?' and John Cole responded." We cannot be proud of every step in the subsequent career of this our "first soldier," for he left his company, and many months later the veteran met him in Virginia in the employ of the government, but as a wagoner, not a soldier, and under an assumed name. With the close of the war and the disbandment of the army came the governmental pardon for all neglect of duty; so this incident may safely be referred to, and we

only kept up with people as we spread the same rumors of the great conquests of our town and were in fact."

Another curious result of the friendly feeling mentioned all through the story, was that "the men" and "the girls" — the boys — "There were few in the life line crew." When sailing was over, if we had taken prisoners we were doing and captured some (they) and when other time came we shared our food with them, and it was on the other side among the ordinary soldiers of the land and others to give us." Thus to the death of the word of command, but were grateful that when soldiers were needed.

One after another the bitter memories of those days of strife are passing away, and the people remembering only the summer — part of the picture. The magazines and papers of to-day are full of reminiscences of those times, but unrecorded with the feeling of that scene of which facts have become to me today. One of these has recently been returned to Major E. S. Horton in a very pleasant manner. During the spring of 1864 while the Fifty-eighth Regiment — the Third Veteran — were at camp at Rockville, Major Horton, then the captain of Company C, was presented with a sword and belt by his men. From camp the regiment went to join the Army of the Potomac at Burnside Station, commencing their active service in the "March of the Wilderness." The sword had been given to Sergeant Mark Smith, and at the battle of Peeble's Farm, near Petersburg, he was killed while he was wearing it. Captain Horton was at that time wearing a sword belonging to the enemy, and it was on the afternoon of the day of that same battle that he was made a prisoner. He heard nothing further of the sword until November, 1886, when a letter was received by Commander D. R. Pierce, of John A. Andrew Post No. 15, of Boston, from Surgeon N. M. Ferebee, U. S. Navy, relating to it. Commander Pierce wrote to Colonel John C. Whiton, a former commander of the Fifty-eighth, now superintendent at Deer Island, and through him the fact of Major Horton's existence, etc., was made known to Mr. Ferebee. The inscription on the sword reads: "Presented to Captain E. S. Horton by the members of Company C, 58th Reg. Mass. Vol." Its restoration after twenty-two years had elapsed adds a thousandfold to its value and to its interest in the eyes of the generations to come. One of the most pleasing features of the entire occurrence is the letter which announced its return: —

OXFORD, N. C., Nov. 20, 1886.

Capt. E. S. Horton, Assistant Major.

Dear Sir, I read for several times the account and find it most fitting. I regret that I am unable to give you any history of the sword. My father was Captain of the 5th N. C. Inf., U. S. A. I have been told that by the sword, some one has possession of some right over the land of the sea. The sword would have been captured before the war and taken home. He had during the war to come and he had taken it from the sword with a request that I should return it. It gives me great pleasure to do so, and since the sword is now again given to me and I find the sword still in the hands of the people, the common interest of the community. I have nothing more to say of the sword.

Very truly yours,

N. M. Ferebee.

The publication of the story of the sword led to Major Horton being made the recipient of another war relic. This is a soldier's cup, on which are roughly carved several letters, "I N. C.," and below these two others, one "W." and the other apparently "L." Mr. Horton received it from Mr. Fred. A. Fry, of Providence, with the following letter:—

You can send the cup to the parties that sent you the sword. As near as I can remember the cup was given to one of the Pennsylvania Bucktail Reg. by one of the Fourth N. E. Reg. when he was dying, for kindness shown him. It was given to me by the Penn. soldier, in Fairfax Seminary Hospital, for favors I had shown him. If the N. C. regi. have a relie room, it may go to them, if not, you can keep it to remember that the hatchet has been buried.

The two grandest scenes of the closing of the war were witnessed and participated in by some of the Attleborough "boys." One of the members of Company I, Twenty-fourth Regiment, has most graphically described the sights he witnessed as he stood one day on the Square in Richmond and saw the Army of the Potomac and Sherman's Army pass through with all the accoutrements and paraphernalia of war. Artillery with shattered gun carriages and roughly mended harnesses; infantry with lustreless bayonets, torn garments, and knapsacks bursting with their hurriedly packed contents; cavalry with mud-splashed uniforms and dirt-begrimed horses; blood-stained stretchers, ambulance wagons, supply carts with cooking utensils, bunniers loaded with the varied results of their raids, and the "motley crew" ever hanging on the outskirts of an army—all passed before his eyes, as they came from the long march or the battlefield, "showing what war really is." Carried along with this heterogeneous, slow-moving mass were the bullet-riddled flags and tattered ensigns that told of bloody fights and terrible death struggles; but, borne aloft as they were that day, they told too of the cessation of strife and announced the joyful tidings of victory.

A few days later, and these same battalions with burnished arms and freshened uniforms, lacking all the homely necessities of camp and field, marched proudly and jubilantly, a hundred thousand men, through the streets of Washington, saluting their commanders for the last time ere they put aside the duties of soldiers and dispersed to their homes to assume again the wonted and more congenial occupations of quiet citizens.

What we have been able to relate forms only "fugitive sketches" of our military work, but, unsatisfactory as both the sketches and the town records are, taken together they prove even to a superficial reader that Attleborough, through citizens and soldiers, acted well her part in the War of the Rebellion.

Our record during the Civil War may be placed by the side of our proud record of the Revolutionary War as an equally worthy one. We are justified in cherishing and expressing feelings of pride in the deeds of our town fathers in both the former and the latter days, and we should possess the deepest sense of gratitude to them for the noble services they performed in the purchase of our twice dearly bought liberties.

CHAPTER VIII

SOLDIERS OF THE CIVIL WAR

THE following list of Atholborough men who served during the war, with biographical notes of a certain kind relating to themselves (as far as these could be ascertained), is taken from the record belonging to Major Percival S. Horton. This record was prepared especially for him at the end of each day's work, and is doubtless the only one of the kind in existence. All the readers of this book are greatly indebted to him for the valuable record of his men in the soldiers of our town, for without it neither the author nor the editor would have been able to present here anything like a complete or complete list of Atholborough's collection of brave soldiers follow:

SEVENTH REGIMENT MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEERS, COMPANY I.

JOHN P. ALDRIDGE. Mustered into service June 26, 1861. Discharged August 1, 1861. Died of disease. Buried in the Soldiers' Home, New York.

WILLIAM F. ALDRIDGE. Mustered into service June 26, 1861. Discharged August 1, 1861. Died of disease. Buried in the Soldiers' Home, New York.

WILLIAM G. ALDRIDGE. Mustered into service June 26, 1861. Discharged August 1, 1861. Died of disease. Buried in the Soldiers' Home, New York.

WILLIAM F. ALDRIDGE. Mustered into service June 26, 1861. Discharged August 1, 1861. Died of disease. Buried in the Soldiers' Home, New York.

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WILLIAM F. ALDRIDGE. Mustered into service June 26, 1861. Discharged August 1, 1861. Died of disease. Buried in the Soldiers' Home, New York.

WILLIAM A. COLE. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged March 4, 1863, from disability.

ALEXANDER COREY. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Transferred February 15, 1864, to the V. R. C.¹

OSCAR B. CUMMINGS. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged June 27, 1864, at expiration of service. Died February 10, 1866. Buried in Old Kirk Yard.

CHARLES B. DES JARDINS. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Commissioned Second Lieutenant July 15, 1861; First Lieutenant September 1, 1861.

EDWARD N. DEAN. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. In 1862 Sergeant Major; November 1, 1862, commissioned Second Lieutenant; December 7, 1862, First Lieutenant. Discharged June 27, 1864, at expiration of service. Died October 24, 1873. Buried at Woodlawn Cemetery.

JAMES M. DAY. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Wagoner. Discharged June 27, 1864, at expiration of service.

BENJAMIN F. DAVENPORT. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged August 5, 1861, from disability.

HENRY P. DAVENPORT. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Died February 22, 1862, at Camp Brightwood, District of Columbia.

JAMES DAY, JR. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged June 27, 1864, at expiration of service.

DAVID S. DEAN. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Service expired March 26, 1865, when he was exchanged prisoner of war.

WILLIAM P. DONNELL. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged February 17, 1863, from disability.

JOHN B. DORAN. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged June 27, 1864, at expiration of service.

HALSEY W. DRAFER. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged March 18, 1862, from disability.

LOWELL A. DRAKE. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged September 19, 1862, from disability.

HENRY G. DUNBAR. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged June 27, 1864, at expiration of service.

WILLIAM E. DUNHAM. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged September 26, 1863, from disability.

NATHANIEL EMERSON. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged June 27, 1864, at expiration of service.

WILLIAM W. FISHER. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Commissioned First Lieutenant. Resigned August 3, 1861.

ANDREW FARRELL. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged June 27, 1864, at expiration of service.

CHARLES E. FISHER. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged June 27, 1864, at expiration of service.²

EZRA A. FISHER. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged February 18, 1862, from disability.

LAWRENCE FLANAGAN. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Deserted April 29, 1864.

GEORGE H. FOLLETT. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged June 27, 1864, at expiration of service.

HENRY FRAWLEY. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged August 10, 1861, from disability.

HERBERT N. FRENCH. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged June 27, 1864, at expiration of service.

ISAAC F. GILES. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. First Sergeant. Commissioned Second Lieutenant May 8, 1863. Discharged June 27, 1864, at expiration of service.

¹ Veteran Reserve Corps. Died at Chapeau, Wyoming, Mar. 1, 1889. Buried at Mount Hope Cemetery.

CHARLES H. A. PERCY. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Deserted October 10, 1862.
 JAMES N. PERRY. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged January 24, 1864, to reenlist.

WILLIAM REMLINGER. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Died April 20, 1863, at Falmouth, Va.

ANDREW J. RICHARDS. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged July 20, 1862, from disability.

WILLIAM A. RICHARDSON. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Deserted September 1, 1862.

BAYLISS B. RICHARDS. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Sergeant. Died at David's Island, N. Y., October 4, 1862.

GEORGE W. ROLLINS. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Corporal. Discharged June 27, 1864, at expiration of service. Died January 19, 1885. Buried at Attleborough.

STEPHEN STANLEY. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Member of Seventh Regiment Band. Discharged August 11, 1862, by order of the War Department.

DENNIS SHANNON. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged October 27, 1862, from disability.

JOHN N. SMITH. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged October 9, 1862, from disability. Died June 10, 1886. Buried by William A. Streeter Post at Woodlawn Cemetery.

ARTEMAS W. STANLEY. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Died October 7, 1862, at Crancy Island, N. Y.

EBEN L. SYLVESTER. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged September 13, 1861, from disability.

ABRAHAM B. SAVERY. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. First Sergeant. Died of wounds December 16, 1863, at Brandy Station, Va. Buried in Old Kirk Yard.

CHARLES W. SNELL. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Sergeant. Discharged June 27, 1864, at expiration of service.

THOMAS C. SWEET. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Sergeant. Discharged June 27, 1864, at expiration of service.

EDWARD SEEVY. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Corporal. Transferred September 17, 1863, to Veteran Reserve Corps.

FRANK STANLEY. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Musician. Discharged July 20, 1862, from disability.

JAMES W. THOMPSON. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Quartermaster Sergeant in 1861; commissioned Second Lieutenant December 7, 1862; First Lieutenant June 11, 1863. Discharged June 27, 1864, at expiration of service.

SAMUEL THOMPSON. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Corporal. Discharged June 27, 1864, at expiration of service.

CHARLES F. TERRILL. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Died of wounds December 13, 1862, at Fredericksburg, Va.

JOHN J. THAYER. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged December 29, 1863, from disability from wounds.

FRANK H. TISDALE. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged June 27, 1864, at expiration of service.

JAMES B. TISDALE. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Died of wounds May 11, 1863, at Washington, D. C.

PRENTISS M. WHITING. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. First Sergeant. Commissioned Second Lieutenant September 2, 1861; First Lieutenant July 24, 1862; Captain November 22, 1862. Mortally wounded at Marye's Heights, Va., May 3, 1863. Died of his wounds May 4, 1863.

WILLIAM H. WADE. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. First Sergeant. Commissioned Second Lieutenant October 25, 1862; First Lieutenant May 4, 1863. Discharged June 27, 1864, at expiration of service.

JOHN F. WILKINSON. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Appointed Sergeant Major. Discharged June 27, 1864, at expiration of service.

HENDERSON H. WILSON. Mustered into service June 15, 1861. Discharged November 16,

and by order of the War Department. Died the following year in Louisiana in the Mississippi.

JOSEPH S. WOODRUP. Married and living June 15, 1891. Born August 2, 1810, in Massachusetts.

HERBERT M. WOODRUP. Married and living June 15, 1891. Born August 2, 1810, in Massachusetts.

ALFRED G. WOODRUP. Married and living August 27, 1891. Born August 2, 1810, in Massachusetts.

GEORGE H. WOODRUP. Married and living June 15, 1891. Died June 1, 1891, in North Massachusetts.

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MASSACHUSETTS VETERANS CONFERENCE

HENRY S. AYER. Married and living September 20, 1891. Born September 2, 1801, at Lexington, Mass. Died December 20, 1891, in Boston, Mass.

LEWIS B. AYER. Married and living September 20, 1891. Born September 2, 1801, in Boston, Mass.

HENRY A. BARNARD. Married and living September 20, 1891. Born September 2, 1801, in Boston, Mass. Died September 2, 1891, in Boston, Mass.

SEYMOUR C. BARNARD. Married and living September 20, 1891. Born September 2, 1801, in Boston, Mass.

EDWARD BARNARD. Married and living September 20, 1891. Born September 2, 1801, in Boston, Mass.

DAVID A. BARNARD. Married and living September 20, 1891. Born September 2, 1801, in Boston, Mass.

WILLIAM BARNARD. Married and living September 20, 1891. Born September 2, 1801, in Boston, Mass.

ALFRED BARNARD. Married and living September 20, 1891. Born September 2, 1801, in Boston, Mass.

EDWARD BARNARD. Married and living September 20, 1891. Born September 2, 1801, in Boston, Mass.

FRANCIS BARNARD. Married and living September 20, 1891. Born September 2, 1801, in Boston, Mass.

EDWARD BARNARD. Married and living September 20, 1891. Born September 2, 1801, in Boston, Mass.

EDWARD BARNARD. Married and living September 20, 1891. Born September 2, 1801, in Boston, Mass.

ALFRED BARNARD. Married and living September 20, 1891. Born September 2, 1801, in Boston, Mass.

EDWARD BARNARD. Married and living September 20, 1891. Born September 2, 1801, in Boston, Mass.

FRANCIS BARNARD. Married and living September 20, 1891. Born September 2, 1801, in Boston, Mass.

EDWARD BARNARD. Married and living September 20, 1891. Born September 2, 1801, in Boston, Mass.

EDWARD BARNARD. Married and living September 20, 1891. Born September 2, 1801, in Boston, Mass.

JOHN H. GODFREY. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Sergeant. Dead. Buried Mount Hope Cemetery.

SAMUEL N. GOFF. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Discharged September 1, 1863, at expiration of service. Dead. Buried at Mount Hope Cemetery.

MICHAEL GORMAN. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Discharged September 1, 1863, at expiration of service. Reenlisted in Company C, Fifty-eighth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers. Killed at Petersburg, Va., in June, 1864.

CHARLES GOURDIER. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Discharged September 1, 1863, at expiration of service.

EDGAR W. GUILD. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Discharged September 1, 1863, at expiration of service.

EVERETT S. HORTON. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Commissioned Second Lieutenant and Captain February 2, 1863. Discharged September 1, 1863, at expiration of service. Reenlisted November 14, 1863, in Company C, Fifty-eighth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers. Commissioned Second Lieutenant; February 10, 1864, Captain; August 8, 1864, Major; August 31, 1864, became Lieutenant-Colonel. Taken prisoner near Petersburg, Va., September 30, 1864. Confined at Salisbury, Danville, and Libby, and paroled February 22, 1865. Discharged July 14, 1865, at expiration of service as Major.

GEORGE HARTSHORN. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Died July 14, 1863, at New Orleans, La. Buried near Camp Parapet.

GEORGE H. HATTIN. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Discharged November 20, 1862, from disability.

GEORGE S. HORTON. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Discharged September 1, 1863, at expiration of service. Died March 2, 1882. Buried in Old Kirk Yard.

CHARLES JACKSON. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Discharged September 1, 1863, at expiration of service.

GEORGE B. JACKSON. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Discharged September 1, 1863, at expiration of service. Dead. Buried at Mount Hope Cemetery.

DEXTER S. JORDAN. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Discharged September 1, 1863, at expiration of service. Dead. Buried in Old Kirk Yard.

JAMES KELLEY, JR. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Discharged September 1, 1863, at expiration of service. Mustered into service February 20, 1864, in Company C, Fifty-eighth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers. Discharged May 31, 1865, from disability caused by a wound in the hand.

BARTHOLOMEW W. LEUTRIO. See Washington B. Leutrio, Company I, Seventh Regiment.

GEORGE H. NORTON. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Discharged September 1, 1863, at expiration of service. Mustered into service February 20, 1864, in Company C, Fifty-eighth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers. Died September 9, 1864, at Andersonville, Ga.

WILLIAM A. NYE. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Discharged September 1, 1863, at expiration of service.

WILLIAM OCONNOR. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Died November 30, 1892. Buried in St. Mary's Cemetery, Falls Village.

EDWARD D. PARMENTER. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Discharged September 1, 1863, at expiration of service.

HORATIO N. PERRY. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Discharged September 1, 1863, at expiration of service.

EUGENE C. PIKE. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Discharged September 1, 1863, at expiration of service.

GEORGE R. READ. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Discharged September 1, 1863, at expiration of service.

LEMUEL T. STARKEY. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. Commissioned Captain. Resigned January 27, 1863, at New Orleans, La.

THOMAS G. SANDLAND. Mustered into service September 23, 1862. December 6, 1862, detailed on extra duty in Quartermaster Department in Banks' Expedition, by order of Brigadier-General G. L. Andrews. Rejoined his company August 18, 1863. Discharged September 1, 1863, at expiration of service.

EDWARD G. SCHMIDTKE. Mustered into service September 10, 1861. Discharged September 10, 1861, on expiration of service. Died. Buried at Mount Hope Cemetery.

ALVIN A. SHIMMICK. Mustered into service September 10, 1861. Discharged September 10, 1861, on expiration of service.

ADOLF W. SHIMMICK. Mustered into service September 10, 1861. Discharged New Orleans, La., on August 1862, from disability.

WILLIAM D. SHIMICK. Mustered into service September 10, 1861. Discharged September 10, 1861, on expiration of service.

JOSEPH D. SHIMICK. Mustered into service September 10, 1861. Discharged September 10, 1861, on expiration of service.

ALBERT L. SHIMICK. Mustered into service September 10, 1861. Discharged September 10, 1861, on expiration of service. Died. Buried at Mount Hope Cemetery.

LESTER E. SHAYLER. Mustered into service September 10, 1861. Discharged September 10, 1861. This man has been found at the regiment of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Thacker of New Orleans, being in service of Mr. Thacker. He died at New Orleans, near the American Hotel.

ANDREW D. V. SHAYLER. Mustered into service September 10, 1861. Died.

FOURTEENTH REGIMENT MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEERS.

COMPANY C.

SAMUEL E. ADAMS. Mustered into service February 20, 1862. Discharged June 10, 1862, on expiration of service.

CHARLES H. BARNETT. Mustered into service February 20, 1862. Died May 10, 1862, at Washington, D. C.

CHARLES H. BARNETT. Mustered into service February 20, 1862. Missing September 10, 1862.

EDWARD A. BARNETT. Mustered into service February 20, 1862. Missing. Discharged June 10, 1862, on expiration of service.

EDWARD A. BARNETT. See Fourteenth Regiment.

EDWARD A. BARNETT. See Fourteenth Regiment.

EDWARD A. BARNETT. Mustered into service February 20, 1862. Discharged June 10, 1862, on expiration of service.

EDWARD A. BARNETT. Mustered into service February 20, 1862. Discharged August 10, 1862, from disability.

MICHAEL J. BARNETT. Mustered into service February 20, 1862. Discharged June 10, 1862, on expiration of service.

WILLIAM BARNETT. Mustered into service February 20, 1862. Discharged July 10, 1862, on expiration of service.

ALBERT BARNETT. Mustered into service February 20, 1862. Discharged July 10, 1862, on expiration of service. Died.

LESTER E. BARNETT. Mustered into service February 20, 1862. Discharged July 10, 1862, on expiration of service.

JOSEPH G. BARNETT. Mustered into service February 20, 1862. Sergeant. Died February 10, 1862, on expiration of service. Buried at Freetown, Va.

ALBERT G. BARNETT. Mustered into service February 20, 1862. Discharged April 10, 1862, from disability. See Fourteenth Regiment.

MICHAEL BARNETT. See Fourteenth Regiment.

ALBERT G. BARNETT. Mustered into service February 20, 1862. Discharged May 10, 1862, on expiration of service. This man has been found at the regiment of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Thacker of New Orleans, being in service of Mr. Thacker. He died at New Orleans, near the American Hotel.

FRANK BARNETT. Mustered into service February 20, 1862. Killed July 10, 1862, at Petersburg, Va.

EDWARD J. BARNETT. Mustered into service February 20, 1862. Discharged May 10, 1862, on expiration of service. Buried at Freetown, Va.

EVERETT S. HORTON. See Forty-seventh Regiment.

CHARLES HACKITT. Mustered into service February 20, 1864. Transferred March 15, 1865, to Veteran Reserve Corps.

PATRICK HOLLAND. Mustered into service February 20, 1864. Discharged July 14, 1865, at expiration of service.

WELCOMB A. IRONS. Mustered into service February 20, 1864. Discharged June 26, 1865, by order of the War Department.

CHARLES H. JOHNSON. Mustered into service February 10, 1864. Second Lieutenant. Commissioned First Lieutenant, March 8, 1864; Captain, August 8, 1864. Made prisoner of war September 30, 1864. Died of wounds October 27, 1864, at Petersburg, Va. Buried in a schoolhouse yard in that city.

DANIEL L. JOHNSON. Mustered into service February 20, 1864. Sergeant. Commissioned Second Lieutenant, August 8, 1864; First Lieutenant, November 1, 1864. Discharged July 14, 1865, at expiration of service.

JAMES KELLEY, JR. See Forty-seventh Regiment.

TURNER KENNEDY. Mustered into service February 20, 1864. Discharged — absent wounded — July 14, 1865, at expiration of service.

OTIS H. KNAPP. Mustered into service February 20, 1864. Dead.

JAMES B. KNIGHT. Mustered into service February 20, 1864. Discharged July 14, 1865, at expiration of service.

BENJAMIN LEWIS. Mustered into service February 20, 1864. Discharged July 14, 1865, at expiration of service.

GEORGE H. NORTON. See Forty-seventh Regiment.

CHARLES NILES. Mustered into service February 20, 1864. Discharged July 14, 1865, at expiration of service, prisoner.

GEORGE O. PECK. Mustered into service February 20, 1864. First Sergeant. Discharged June 3, 1865, by order of the War Department.

GEORGE R. PIERCE. Mustered into service February 20, 1864. Discharged July 14, 1865, at expiration of service.

GEORGE SMITH. Mustered into service February 20, 1864. Discharged July 14, 1865, at expiration of service.

GEORGE TOURTELLOTTE. Mustered into service February 20, 1864. Discharged July 14, 1865, at expiration of service.

HORACE N. WHITNEY. Mustered into service February 20, 1864. Corporal. Discharged July 14, 1865, at expiration of service.

HERBERT E. WHIPPLE. Mustered into service February 20, 1864. Discharged May 22, 1865, by order of the War Department.

HENRY WILLIAMS. Mustered into service February 20, 1864. Deserted in March, 1864.

COMPANY D.

DEANE NICKERSON. Mustered into service March 1, 1864. Died prisoner of war at Danville, Va., January 23, 1865.

COMPANY E.

ROBERT HALL. Mustered into service March 1, 1864. Discharged — as absent — July 14, 1865, at expiration of service. Lost a leg at the battle of Cold Harbor, Va. Dead.

JAMES Y. WILLIAMS. Mustered into service March 1, 1864. Deserted April 1, 1864.

COMPANY G.

ASA ALDRICH. Mustered into service March 26, 1864. Died June 26, 1864, at City Point, Va.

WILLIAM A. HATHIN. Mustered into service March 26, 1864. Discharged June 16, 1865, by order of the War Department. Dead.

CHARLES HOYLE. Mustered into service March 26, 1864. Transferred February 21, 1865, to Veteran Reserve Corps.

EDGAR A. MORSE. Mustered into service February 20, 1864. Musician. Discharged July 14, 1865, at expiration of service.

WILLIAM H. DAVIS. Married first service April 25, 1864. Discharged second service July 24, 1864, on account of lameness of right leg.

COMPANY H.

GEORGE W. ELLIS. Married first service April 25, 1864. Discharged July 11, 1864, on account of lameness.

ARTHUR W. FARRINGTON. Married first service April 25, 1864. Wounded in the arm at Petersburg, Va. (dead) in October, Washington, D. C. Discharged May 18, 1865, on order of the War Department.

WILLIAM H. FARRAR. Married first service April 25, 1864. Died March 26, 1865, at Danville, Va.

COMPANY I.

JOHN F. GARDNER. Married first service May 16, 1864. Died of wounds at Petersburg, Va., June 25, 1864.

COMPANY K.

ALLEN L. GIBSON. Married first service May 16, 1864. Discharged June 26, 1865.

FURBER'S REGIMENT, MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEERS.

COMPANY H.

WILLIAM H. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Suffered from rheumatism. Served in the 10th Maine at Fort Lincoln, N. H., and at Fort Fisher, N. C. Discharged June 10, 1865, on expiration of service.

FRANCIS B. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Corporal. Discharged June 10, 1865, on expiration of service.

ALBERT F. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Wagoner. Discharged September 10, 1865, on expiration of service.

WILLIAM H. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Discharged September 10, 1865, on expiration of service.

FRANCIS A. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Discharged May 26, 1865, on expiration of service.

ALBERT H. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Discharged February 26, 1865, on expiration of service.

WILLIAM H. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Transferred to the 10th Maine at Fort Lincoln, N. H., and at Fort Fisher, N. C.

JOHN H. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Discharged June 26, 1865, on expiration of service.

ALBERT H. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. First Sergeant. Married second time June 26, 1865. Discharged June 26, 1865, on expiration of service.

FRANCIS B. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Discharged June 26, 1865, on expiration of service.

ALBERT H. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Corporal. Discharged June 26, 1865, on expiration of service.

FRANCIS A. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Corporal. Discharged June 26, 1865, on expiration of service.

ALBERT H. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Corporal. Discharged June 26, 1865, on expiration of service.

FRANCIS B. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Corporal. Discharged June 26, 1865, on expiration of service.

ALBERT H. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Corporal. Discharged June 26, 1865, on expiration of service.

FRANCIS A. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Corporal. Discharged June 26, 1865, on expiration of service.

ALBERT H. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Corporal. Discharged June 26, 1865, on expiration of service.

FRANCIS B. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Corporal. Discharged June 26, 1865, on expiration of service.

ALBERT H. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Corporal. Discharged June 26, 1865, on expiration of service.

FRANCIS A. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Corporal. Discharged June 26, 1865, on expiration of service.

ALBERT H. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Corporal. Discharged June 26, 1865, on expiration of service.

FRANCIS B. BAKER. Married first service September 1, 1862. Corporal. Discharged June 26, 1865, on expiration of service.

CHARLES L. FULLER. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Sergeant. Discharged June 16, 1865, at expiration of service.

JACOB GOETTER. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged June 16, 1865, at expiration of service.

EDWIN J. HORTON. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Sergeant. Detailed in Commissary Department. Discharged June 16, 1865, at expiration of service. Lost on steamer Narragansett, June, 1880. Buried at Woodlawn Cemetery.

ROBERT E. HARRIS. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged June 16, 1865, at expiration of service.

ALBERT W. HATTIN. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged December 6, 1862, from disability. Dead. Buried in St. Mary's Cemetery.

HENRY W. HODGES. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged June 7, 1865, from disability.

LLOYD B. HODGES. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged June 9, 1865, by order of the War Department.

GEORGE W. HORTON. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged June 29, 1865, by order of the War Department. Prisoner of war at Florence.

ISAAC N. JOHNSON. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged May 18, 1865, by order of the War Department.

HOMER METCALF. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. First Sergeant. Died at New York January 22, 1864.

SAMUEL A. NEWCOMB. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Died at Folly Island, S. C., November 30, 1863.

NICHOLAS NERNEY. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Transferred September 1, 1865, to Veteran Reserve Corps. Discharged June 30, 1865.

WENNER PARK. Mustered into service August 15, 1862. Commissioned First Lieutenant; Captain June 2, 1863. Discharged June 16, 1865, at expiration of service.

EDWIN R. PAINE. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Sergeant. Discharged July 15, 1864, from disability. Died at Pawtucket, R. I.

HENRY M. PARK. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Corporal. Died of wounds at Bermuda Hundred June 6, 1864.

LESTER A. PERKINS. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Killed June 3, 1864, at Cold Harbor, Va.

EUGENE H. RICHARDS. Mustered into service August 15, 1862. Commissioned Second Lieutenant. Made First Lieutenant June 2, 1863. Resigned as Second Lieutenant July 5, 1863.

EDGAR A. RICHARDSON. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged June 24, 1865, by order of the War Department. Dead. Buried at Mount Hope Cemetery.

WILLIAM H. ROGERS. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged June 16, 1865, at expiration of service.

GERSHOM R. ROUNDS. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged September 10, 1864, from disability.

WILLIAM H. SMITH. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged June 13, 1865, by order of War Department. Wounded at Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864.

JOHN F. STREETER. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Commissioned First Lieutenant December 1, 1864. Discharged June 16, 1865, at expiration of service as Brevet-Captain.

HENRY A. STREETER. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Sergeant. Commissioned First Lieutenant September 7, 1864. Discharged June 16, 1865, at expiration of service.

JOB B. SAVERY. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Sergeant. Discharged June 16, 1865, at expiration of service. Died October 3, 1886. Buried by William A. Streeter Post at Woodlawn Cemetery.

JOHN SLATER. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Corporal. Discharged June 16, 1865, at expiration of service.

JAMES SHORT. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged June 16, 1865, at expiration of service. Wounded in the hand at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, 1863.

ANDREW C. COOPER. Married into service January 2, 1864. Killed May 30, 1864, at the battle of Gettysburg, Pa.

WILLIAM J. SPENCER. Married into service September 1, 1863. Discharged August 26, 1864, at expiration of service.

DESPEREA C. SMITH. Married into service September 1, 1863. Transferred June 26, 1864, to expiration of service.

ABRAHAM A. STANLEY. Married into service December 3, 1863. Transferred June 26, 1864, at expiration of service. (From Portland, Me.)

ANTHONY H. THAYER. Married into service September 1, 1863. Died of wounds June 26, 1864, at Gettysburg, Pa.

ARTHUR E. WELLES. Married into service September 1, 1863. Transferred December 26, 1864, to expiration of service. (Continued from Portland, Me.)

GEORGE M. WELLES. Married into service September 1, 1863. Transferred June 26, 1864, to expiration of service. (Continued from Portland, Me.)

CHARLES H. WEAVER. Married into service September 1, 1863. Discharged August 26, 1864, at expiration of service.

JOHN WHITE. Married into service September 1, 1863. Transferred May 30, 1864, at the battle of Gettysburg, Pa.

SWAN L. WINTER. Married into service September 1, 1863. Discharged August 26, 1864, at expiration of service.

CHARLES E. O'NEILL. Married into service September 1, 1863. Discharged August 26, 1864, at expiration of service.

JOHN O. WILKINSON. Married into service September 1, 1863. Died May 30, 1864, at the battle of Gettysburg, Pa.

THIRTY-FOUR BROTHERS, MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEERS— CONTINUED.

EDWARD B. BROWN. Married into service January 1, 1864. Discharged May 30, 1864, at the battle of Gettysburg, Pa.

JOHN A. BROWN. Married into service September 28, 1863. Discharged November 1, 1864, at expiration of service.

JOHN BROWN. Married into service August 1, 1864. Discharged July 8, 1864. (Continued from New Orleans, La.)

GEORGE W. BROWN. Married into service May 6, 1864. Discharged August 26, 1864, at expiration of service.

GEORGE W. BROWN. Married into service January 1, 1864. Discharged August 26, 1864, at expiration of service. (Continued from Portland, Me.)

WILLIAM H. BROWN. Married into service January 1, 1864. Discharged December 26, 1864, at expiration of service. (From Portland, Me.)

WALTER E. BROWN. Married into service September 28, 1863. Discharged October 27, 1864, at expiration of service.

EDWARD C. BROWN. Married into service January 1, 1864. Discharged August 26, 1864, at expiration of service.

GEORGE W. BROWN. Married into service January 1, 1864. Killed September 19, 1864, at the battle of Gettysburg, Pa.

STEWART A. BROWN. Married into service October 4, 1863. Died at New Orleans, Louisiana, June 1, 1864.

GEORGE W. BROWN. Married into service October 4, 1863. Discharged November 7, 1864, at expiration of service.

EDWARD J. BROWN. Married into service January 1, 1864. Killed October 26, 1864, at the battle of Gettysburg, Pa.

JOHN BROWN. Died. Buried in the Kirk Yard. Died August 13, 1864. Buried at Woodbury.

JOSEPH S. HUNT. Mustered into service October 4, 1861. Transferred December 22, 1863, to Signal Corps.

ALVIN T. JOSLIN. Mustered into service October 4, 1861. Discharged November 7, 1864, at expiration of service.

JAMES KEENAN. Mustered into service February 1, 1864. Discharged August 26, 1865, at expiration of service. [Reenlisted from Pawtucket, R. I.]

JOHN MCGUTHRIE. Mustered into service January 1, 1864. Discharged June 19, 1865, from disability. [Reenlisted from New Orleans, La.]

THOMAS MCKENNA. Mustered into service March 24, 1864. Discharged August 26, 1865, at expiration of service. [Reenlisted from Pawtucket, R. I.]

BARNEY MCTAGUE. Mustered into service January 1, 1864. Discharged June 28, 1865, from disability. [Reenlisted from Pawtucket, R. I.]

JAMES O. SMITH. Mustered into service January 1, 1864. Discharged August 26, 1865, at expiration of service. [Reenlisted from Pawtucket, R. I.]

THOMAS SWETLAND. Mustered into service March 23, 1864. Discharged August 26, 1865, at expiration of service.

ARTHUR W. THORNTON. Mustered into service March 24, 1864. Deserted June 3, 1865.

COMPANY I.

WILLIAM HIGGINS. Mustered into service September 1, 1861. Discharged January 31, 1864, to reenlist February 1, 1864, in the same company. Deserted July 11, 1864.

COMPANY K.

SPALDING H. ABBOTT. Mustered into service January 5, 1864. Corporal. Discharged August 26, 1865, at expiration of service. [Reenlisted from Pawtucket, R. I., to the credit of Attleborough.]

FRANK W. STANTON. Mustered into service September 14, 1861. Died October 28, 1862, at New Orleans, La.

TWENTY-FOURTH REGIMENT MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTIERS.

COMPANY C.

EDWIN C. BRAGG. Mustered into service September 14, 1861. Discharged January 3, 1864, to reenlist January 4, 1864, in the same company. Lost April 28, 1865, on steamer General Lyon.

CHARLES P. DIRK. Mustered into service September 16, 1861. Discharged September 16, 1864, at expiration of service. Reenlisted January 5, 1865, in Hancock's Veteran Reserve Corps. Mustered out January 4, 1866. Died August 21, 1886. Buried at Mount Hope Cemetery by William A. Streeter Post.

ALTRIETH LEONARD. Mustered into service September 12, 1861. Discharged October 16, 1864, at expiration of service.

ERNEST MYER. Mustered into service September 12, 1861. Discharged September 15, 1863, from disability from wounds.

JAMES SHERMAN. Mustered into service September 16, 1861. Transferred March 9, 1864, to Veteran Reserve Corps.

JOHN THOMAS. Mustered into service September 9, 1861. Killed March 14, 1862, at Newberne, N. C.

JACOB WEIS. Mustered into service September 12, 1861. Discharged January 3, 1864, to reenlist January 4, 1864. Discharged January 20, 1866, at expiration of service.

JAMES C. WINDSOR. Mustered into service February 8, 1864. Discharged January 20, 1866, at expiration of service.

DE WITT C. YOUNG. Mustered into service September 16, 1861. Discharged September 10, 1864, at expiration of service.

COMPANY H.

EDWARD E. BRIGGS. Mustered into service October 4, 1861. Discharged October 8, 1864, at expiration of service.

GEORGE W. CLARK. Mustered into service October 25, 1861. Killed August 16, 1862, at Deep Run, Va.

GEORGE W. DAVIS. Mustered into service October 15, 1861. Discharged October 22, 1862, at Washington, N. C. Must. 25, 1861.

ANDREW D. DAVIS. Mustered into service October 5, 1861. Must. 22, 1862, at New York, N. C. Discharged October 8, 1862, at Washington, D. C.

ANDREW E. DAVIS. Mustered into service October 5, 1861. Must. 22, 1862, at New York, N. C. Discharged October 8, 1862, at Washington, D. C. Wounded at Deep Run, Va., August 14, 1862. Discharged June 11, 1863.

HAROLD E. DAVIS. Mustered into service October 5, 1861. Died August 1, 1862, at New York, N. C.

HAROLD E. DAVIS. Mustered into service October 5, 1861. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service.

JOHN A. DAVIS. Mustered into service October 5, 1861. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service. Must. 22, 1862, at New York, N. C. Discharged October 1, 1862, at New York, N. C. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service.

WILLIAM F. GILBERT. Mustered into service October 20, 1861. Discharged September 1, 1862, at expiration of service.

WILLIAM H. GILBERT. Mustered into service October 20, 1861. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service. Must. 22, 1862, at New York, N. C. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service.

WILLIAM C. GILBERT. Mustered into service October 20, 1861. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service.

DAVID N. GILBERT. Mustered into service February 5, 1862. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service.

HAROLD H. GILBERT. Mustered into service October 2, 1861. Discharged. Must. 22, 1862, at New York, N. C. Discharged October 7, 1862. Wounded at Deep Run, Va., August 14, 1862.

WILLIAM A. GILBERT. Mustered into service October 10, 1861. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service. Must. 22, 1862, at New York, N. C. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service.

THOMAS GILBERT. Mustered into service October 10, 1861. Must. 22, 1862, at New York, N. C. Discharged October 21, 1862, at expiration of service. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service.

COMPANY I.

EDWARD GILBERT. Mustered into service October 10, 1861. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service.

EDWARD GILBERT. Mustered into service October 10, 1861. Discharged October 21, 1862, at expiration of service. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service.

EDWARD GILBERT. Mustered into service October 10, 1861. Discharged October 21, 1862, at expiration of service.

EDWARD GILBERT. Mustered into service October 10, 1861. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service. Discharged January 15, 1863, at expiration of service.

COMPANY TWO. MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEERS.

COMPANY A.

RAY T. HARRISON. Mustered into service September 2, 1861. Died July 24, 1862, at Deep Run, Va.

WILLIAM HARRISON. Mustered into service September 2, 1861. Died July 24, 1862, at Deep Run, Va.

COMPANY B.

WALTER KEON. Mustered into service August 24, 1861. Discharged December 31, 1862, from disability.

CHARLES E. RYONSON. Mustered into service August 24, 1861. Discharged September 2, 1864, at expiration of service.

COMPANY H.

CHARLES O. WALLIS. Mustered into service August 24, 1861. Discharged September 2, 1864, at expiration of service.

COMPANY I.

WILLIAM A. BLAKE. Mustered into service August 24, 1861. Discharged November 29, 1862, from disability.

DANIEL K. FRANKLIN. Mustered into service August 24, 1861. Discharged October 20, 1861, from disability.

EPHRAIM M. KNAPP. Mustered into service August 24, 1861. Died October 27, 1861.

FRANK G. SMITH. Mustered into service August 24, 1861. Killed at Bull Run, Va., August 30, 1862.

THIRTEENTH REGIMENT MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEERS.

COMPANY C.

CHARLES HILL. Mustered into service July 29, 1863. Deserted September 17, 1863.

COMPANY H.

GEORGE SWARIZ. Mustered into service July 27, 1863. Discharged April 21, 1864.

ADAM WOLFE. Mustered into service July 24, 1863. Transferred July 14, 1864, to Thirty-ninth Infantry.

THIRTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEERS.

COMPANY F.

LEWIS O. HAWKINS. Mustered out of service June 13, 1865. Died July 15, 1885. Buried at Woodlawn Cemetery by William A. Streeter Post.

ENLISTMENTS IN ARTILLERY, CAVALRY, AND NAVY.

REYNOLD ARNOLD. Mustered into service September 4, 1864, in Company F, Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery. Transferred January 17, 1865, to Seventeenth Infantry.

MICHAEL SULLIVAN. Mustered into service August 23, 1864, in Company F, Heavy Artillery. Discharged June 26, 1865, at expiration of service.

JOHN BRAGSHAW. Mustered into service March 22, 1864, in Light Artillery. Deserted July 9, 1864.

THIRD MASSACHUSETTS CAVALRY.

COMPANY A.

VARANUS S. BAILEY. Mustered into service January 5, 1864. Discharged September 25, 1865, at expiration of service.

COMPANY B.

JOSEPH C. HODGSON. Mustered into service February 25, 1864. Discharged July 29, 1865, at expiration of service; then member of Company H.

COMPANY C.

ADAM DEBU. Mustered into service February 4, 1864. Deserted August 25, 1865.

JOHN MITCHELL. Mustered into service January 4, 1864. First sergeant. Discharged September 28, 1865, at expiration of service.

WILLIAM SWIFT. Mustered into service January 6, 1864. Discharged September 28, 1865, at expiration of service.

COMPANY F.

FRANK E. ANDERSON. Mustered into service January 1, 1862. Discharged August 1, 1862. Discharged on furlough.

FRANK E. ANDERSON. Mustered into service January 1, 1862. Discharged September 20, 1862. Discharged on furlough.

FIFTH MASSACHUSETTS CAVALRY

COMPANY G.

JOHN T. FLY. Mustered into service January 1, 1862. Discharged November 11, 1862. Discharged on furlough.

COMPANY H.

DANIEL M. MASON. Mustered into service February 1, 1862. Discharged September 1, 1862.

FIRST MASSACHUSETTS CAVALRY

COMPANY C.

JOHN J. SHERMAN. Mustered into service January 1, 1862. Discharged March 1, 1862. Discharged on furlough.

LEON W. WALKER. Mustered into service January 1, 1862. Discharged October 1, 1862. Discharged on furlough.

COMPANY E.

WILLIAM H. JENNINGS. Mustered into service June 1, 1862. Discharged October 1, 1862. Discharged on furlough.

WILLIAM H. JENNINGS. Mustered into service June 1, 1862. Discharged October 1, 1862. Discharged on furlough.

NAVY.

JOHN E. ALLEN. See JOHN E. ALLEN, United States Cavalry.

ALFRED B. BROWN. Mustered into service July 1, 1862. Discharged August 1, 1862. Discharged on furlough. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged October 1, 1862. Discharged on furlough.

EDWARD H. BROWN. Mustered into service September 1, 1862.

WILLIAM J. McHUGH. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged October 1, 1862. Discharged on furlough.

WILLIAM J. WALKER. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged October 1, 1862. Discharged on furlough.

WILLIAM J. WALKER. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged October 1, 1862. Discharged on furlough.

WILLIAM J. WALKER. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged October 1, 1862. Discharged on furlough.

WILLIAM J. WALKER. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged October 1, 1862. Discharged on furlough.

WILLIAM J. WALKER. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged October 1, 1862. Discharged on furlough.

WILLIAM J. WALKER. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged October 1, 1862. Discharged on furlough.

WILLIAM J. WALKER. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Discharged October 1, 1862. Discharged on furlough.

EDWARD H. BROWN.

FIRST REGIMENT, CAVALRY D.

CHARLES H. BROWN. Mustered into service May 1, 1861. Discharged August 1, 1861.

CHARLES H. BROWN. Mustered into service May 1, 1861. Discharged August 1, 1861.

CHARLES H. BROWN. Mustered into service May 1, 1861. Discharged August 1, 1861.

COMPANY E.

HENRY C. BROWN. Mustered into service May 2, 1861. Sergeant. Discharged August 2, 1861.

COMPANY G.

JOHN S. BROWN. Mustered into service May 2, 1861. Discharged August 2, 1861. Re-enlisted December 14, 1861, in Company B, First Rhode Island Cavalry. Corporal-Sergeant. Killed in battle October 11, 1863. Buried in Old Kirk Yard.

SECOND RHODE ISLAND REGIMENT.

COMPANY A.

CHARLES E. CROCKER. Mustered into service July 8, 1863. Transferred on reorganization of regiment. Taken prisoner November 6, 1863.

COMPANY C.

DANIEL E. ADAMS. Mustered into service June 8, 1861. Wounded at battle of Salem Heights May 3, 1863. Discharged June 17, 1864.

GEORGE HUBBARD. Mustered into service May 5, 1861. Wagoner. Discharged February 28, 1862, on surgeon's certificate.

DANIEL L. TUCKER. Mustered into service June 5, 1861. Wounded slightly before Richmond June 25, 1862. Discharged December 30, 1862, on surgeon's certificate.

JAMES W. MCKACKNEY. Mustered into service May 5, 1861. Absent in Portsmouth Grove Hospital September 1, 1862.

COMPANY D.

CHARLES E. KENT. Mustered out of service July 13, 1865.

CHARLES S. KUCE. Mustered into service June 6, 1861. Wounded at Bull Run July 21, 1861. Discharged June 17, 1864.

THOMAS SHERIDAN. Mustered into service October 31, 1863. At new organization July 13, 1865, absent in hospital sick.

ALVIN T. SUNDERLAND. Mustered into service October 31, 1863. Discharged at new organization July 13, 1865.

COMPANY G.

THOMAS LAMBERT. Mustered into service June 5, 1861. Wounded at Bull Run July 21, 1861. Discharged March 24, 1862, on surgeon's certificate.

COMPANY H.

ANSEL L. SWEET. Mustered into service October 13, 1862. Corporal. Discharged July 29, 1863.

FOURTH RHODE ISLAND REGIMENT.

COMPANY G.

WILLIAM T. THACHER. Mustered into service August 15, 1862. Wounded. Served in Commissary Department. Died in Boston July 15, 1884. Buried in Old Kirk Yard.

COMPANY I.

GEORGE CROCKER. Mustered into service October 31, 1861. Discharged October 15, 1864.

DARIUS I. COLE. Company I, Seventh Rhode Island. Killed at the battle of Spottsylvania Court House, Va., May 13, 1865. Sergeant and Second Lieutenant.

SEVENTH RHODE ISLAND REGIMENT.

COMPANY D.

JOHN FRAWLEY. Mustered into service September 6, 1862. Discharged April 17, 1863, on surgeon's certificate.

COMPANY E.

GEORGE T. HARRINGTON. Mustered into service September 1, 1862. Transferred under new organization October 25, 1864. Discharged June 1, 1865.

THIRD RHODE ISLAND REGIMENT.

COMPANY C.

RICHARD T. LEECHMAN. Mustered into service October 1, 1862. Discharged July 25, 1865.

EDWARD A. MILLER. Mustered into service October 1, 1862. Discharged July 25, 1865.

LEWIS PIERCE. Mustered into service October 1, 1862. Discharged July 25, 1865.

TWENTH RHODE ISLAND REGIMENT.

COMPANY K.

WILLIAM F. FIELD. Mustered into service October 15, 1862. Wounded at Freshwaterburg, Va. Discharged 15, 1862. Discharged June 25, 1865.

THIRD RHODE ISLAND ARTILLERY.

COMPANY A.

THOMAS CORRIHAN. Mustered into service February 17, 1862. Reenlisted March 1, 1864.

COMPANY C.

EDWARD E. CARPENTER. Mustered into service October 15, 1862. First Sergeant. Discharged January 25, 1864. In Company G, First Rhode Island, Commonwealth Service. Discharged March 22, 1865, and First Connecticut May 15, 1865. Discharged June 9, 1865, at expiration of service.

ALLEN W. GILLES. Mustered into service December 20, 1862. Transferred to 1st Rhode Island, S. C., December 4, 1863. Promoted. Discharged January 25, 1865.

COMPANY H.

THOMAS C. HERRICK. Mustered into service October 1, 1862. Company. Sergeant. Reenlisted January 25, 1864. Transferred to Company B September 15, 1864.

COMPANY L.

SAMUEL JACKSON. Mustered into service April 25, 1864. Transferred to Company D February 16, 1865.

SAMUEL N. RILEY. Mustered into service February 14, 1862. Discharged February 2, 1865, at expiration of service.

COMPANY M.

ALBERT A. BROWN. Mustered into service March 7, 1862. Reenlisted September 15, 1864. Discharged to Company D December 25, 1864.

FIFTH RHODE ISLAND HEAVY ARTILLERY.

COMPANY A.

AMOS FURBER. Mustered into service December 16, 1862. Reenlisted January 1, 1864. Transferred March 15, 1864, at Canton, N. C. Died in August, 1864, at Andersonville, Ga.

COMPANY D.

CHARLES C. GERRICK. Mustered into service December 20, 1862. Sergeant. Reenlisted February 15, 1864. Mustered out of service January 25, 1865.

CORNELIUS H. SATTIN. Mustered into service December 20, 1862. Sergeant. Transferred to Company B March 1, 1864. Reenlisted January 1, 1865. Discharged June 2, 1865.

COMPANY E.

WILLIAM N. BROWN. Mustered into service December 16, 1861. Mustered out November 29, 1864.

GEORGE W. FRENCH. Mustered into service December 16, 1861. Reenlisted January 5, 1864. Mustered out of service June 26, 1865.

COMPANY F.

THOMAS CASSIDY. Mustered into service May 27, 1862. Mustered out May 19, 1865.

MICHAEL DEVINE. Mustered into service May 27, 1862. Sergeant. Mustered out May 19, 1865.

JOHN REYNOLDS. Mustered into service June 10, 1862. Mustered out June 10, 1865.

COMPANY H.

LAWRENCE FLANAGAN. Mustered into service December 27, 1862. Sergeant. Transferred April 12, 1864, to Veteran Reserve Corps.

FIRST RHODE ISLAND LIGHT ARTILLERY.

COMPANY A.

ALBERT J. JENCKES. Mustered into service June 6, 1861. Transferred to Battery F October 3, 1861.

ROBERT LAUGHLIN. Mustered into service March 18, 1862. Discharged in November, 1862, on surgeon's certificate.

COMPANY D.

STEPHEN W. BALLOU. Mustered into service September 4, 1861. Corporal. Mustered out September 3, 1864.

CHARLES E. MAY. Date of enlistment or discharge not known. Musician.

FRANK M. TUCKER. Mustered into service September 4, 1861. Corporal. Reenlisted January 31, 1864. Sergeant. Commissioned Second Lieutenant June 12, 1865, for gallant and meritorious services during the war. Mustered out of service July 17, 1865.

COMPANY F.

CHARLES H. BAKER. Mustered into service October 29, 1861. Mustered out October 28, 1864.

FIRST RHODE ISLAND LIGHT BATTERY.

ALLEN W. BLACKINTON. Mustered into service May 2, 1861. Mustered out August 6, 1861.

JEREMIAH FITZGERALD. Mustered into service May 2, 1861. Mustered out August 6, 1861.

WILLIAM H. WALCOTT. Mustered into service May 2, 1861. Honorably discharged June 7, 1861, to accept a commission in Seventeenth Infantry Regular Army.

TENTH RHODE ISLAND LIGHT BATTERY.

GEORGE R. ADAMS. Mustered into service May 26, 1862. Discharged August 30, 1862. Reenlisted in navy. Assigned to gun-boat Sonoma in South Atlantic Squadron, flag-ship. Discharged June 25, 1865.

HENRY C. BAILEY. Mustered into service May 26, 1862. Mustered out August 30, 1862. Reenlisted February 4, 1864, in Company F, Seventh Rhode Island Cavalry. Sergeant. Wounded in the eye April 23, 1864, on Red River, La. Discharged September 5, 1864, on surgeon's certificate.

WILLIAM A. BRAGG. Mustered into service May 26, 1862. Discharged August 30, 1862.

GIDEON M. HORTON. Mustered into service May 26, 1862. Mustered out August 30, 1862. Died at San Antonio, Texas, December 16, 1886. Buried at Woodlawn Cemetery.

GEORGE P. JOHNSON. Mustered into service May 20, 1862. Mustered out August 30, 1862. Reenlisted, was on gun-boat Nipsic. Died at Andersonville, Ga.

JOHN L. REMLINGER. Mustered into service May 26, 1862. Corporal. Mustered out August 30, 1862.

CHARLES H. STANLEY. Mustered into service May 20, 1862. Company. Discharged August 20, 1862. (Died in England.)

FRANCIS C. WARD. Mustered into service May 20, 1862. Company. Mustered out August 20, 1862.

FRANK W. WARD. See Fort Green with Massachusetts Regiment.

FIRST REGIMENT IN ALL CASUALTY.

COMPANY G.

EDWARD D. GIBBLE. Mustered into service December 9, 1861. Private of 24th of 1862. Died, A. L. Alderson Co. Co., Stratford, Conn., February 1, 1862. Discharged April 5, 1862.

COMPANY F.

GEORGE L. FERRIS. Mustered into service December 11, 1861. Discharged April 1, 1862. on account of disability.

SEVENTH REGIMENT IN ALL CASUALTY.

COMPANY A.

LESLIE S. GAY. Mustered into service June 20, 1862. Discharged September 20, 1862.

COMPANY C.

JAMES McKAY. Mustered into service January 9, 1862. Company. Discharged November 20, 1862.

COMPANY F.

ALBERT D. CLARK. Mustered into service February 4, 1862. Company. Discharged November 20, 1862.

COMPANY M.

JOHN RICHARDSON. Mustered into service June 15, 1862. Discharged July 12, 1862.

MICHAEL RICHMOND. Mustered into service June 15, 1862. Discharged July 12, 1862.

HENRY C. BALLEW. See Fort Green with 1st Mass. Battery.

HENRY A. BLOOMFIELD. See Fort Green with Massachusetts Regiment.

HENRY W. CHALK. See Seventh Massachusetts Regiment.

FIRST REGIMENT IN ALL DISCHARGED MUSTERS.

COMPANY A.

GEORGE L. DILLON. Mustered into service May 1, 1861. Discharged August 1, 1861.

JOSEPH W. BLOOMFIELD. Mustered into service May 1, 1861. Discharged August 1, 1861.

COMPANY D.

CHARLES O. LEECH. Mustered into service May 1, 1861. Discharged August 1, 1861.

COMPANY E.

JOHN E. MCKAY. Mustered into service May 1, 1861. Discharged August 1, 1861.

GEORGE SUTHER. Mustered into service May 1, 1861. Discharged August 1, 1861.

HENRY C. WICKHAM. Mustered into service May 1, 1861. Discharged August 1, 1861.

The following are the names of those soldiers who were stationed "at the front," and were there contrary to the order of the town to sit several times:—

Ephraim Adams.

John Ayer.

William H. A. Adams.

Henry Goodenough.

W. C. Emerson.

Frank Barker.

Julius Bacon.

John A. Bott.

Ed. J. Bailey.

Edward Connor.

Marion Connor.

James D. Connor.

Francis P. Clark,	James W. Clark,	Stephen R. Coffy,
Burton Cole,	George A. Crossman,	John Davit,
Michael Dillon,	John Doisey,	John Dwyer,
Thomas Eagan,	Jacob Feathers,	Samuel Ferguson,
Patrick Finnegan,	John W. Fitzpatrick,	James Gorman,
Michael Gorman,	George Guderberlett,	Henry Higgins,
John D. Hackman,	Henry Hoffman,	Thomas S. Hoover,
Charles S. Hulse,	William Irwin,	Robert Jones,
John F. Kappel,	Michael Keegan,	Edward Kelley,
Michael Keltz,	Christian Kern,	Bernhardt Klien,
Frederick W. Koring,	Theodore Kramer,	Oscar H. Lane,
Jacob Laubenheimer,	James O. Lee,	William H. Martin,
Thomas Mathers,	John McCallon,	Thomas McGovern,
Edward McNaspey,	Adolph Metzger,	Thomas Mitchell,
Bernhardt Miller,	Leonidas G. Mock,	Victor Mott,
Matthew Murphy,	Thomas Murphy,	Michael Newman,
Christian Proezeller,	William J. Sweeney,	Charles Sieller,
George W. Steward,	John Schlotzman,	James Spengler,
Thomas Tuffy,	Frederick Voss,	Henry Weiss.

The above list is certainly a creditable one both in length and character. At the time of the war our town numbered some 7,000 or 8,000 inhabitants and, in round numbers, sent four hundred men to the field, a number of whom served more than once. Several families sent two members, and in four instances three members enlisted and served, in every case brothers. They were James W., Samuel, and Thomas Thompson; Henry S., Daniel E., and George G. Adams; Everett S., Edwin J., and Gideon M. Horton; John F., Henry A., and William A. Streeter. Of this unusual fact we may be proud and of the further fact that all had an honorable record as soldiers. It adds further interest to record that these twelve men were neighbors, all of one village; and the statement may still be made that they are, as they were, from *Attleborough*, the places where they resided being still in that town.

The following is a list of the men drafted for this town in Taunton, July 16, 1863, and may be of interest to some.

James McClatchy,	Seneca Cole,	John R. Blackinton,
William Holly,	William Worger,	Arthur B. Carpenter,
Robert H. Sherman,	Horace D. Cutting,	James J. Freeman,
Randolph Knapp,	George P. Johnston,	C. M. Rhodes,
Robert Laughlin,	William H. Beebe,	Edward E. Honan,
William A. Knight,	Edward A. Wilson,	Thomas S. Wheelock,
Patrick Larry,	George Crocker,	Augustus C. Hall,
Gamaliel Draper,	George A. Dean,	Charles H. Bushee,
William H. Tiffany,	George W. French,	Sullivan Eaton,
Charles H. Ames,	George E. Wallace,	Edwin B. Thurber,
Charles H. Wood,	Reuben A. Dean,	Daniel Jacques,
David Knight,	Frederick Dahl,	Dennis Murphy,
Eustis B. Ingraham,	William Walker,	John Doran,
Frank B. Richards,	John F. Mackinson,	Raymond A. King,
Peter Boyce,	William C. Brainard,	Thomas Bride,
John Dennis,	Patrick Nally,	Charles Murray.

John Hodgson,
John Graham,
John Gurney,
Thomas A. Hayes,
Edward J. Hughes,
George F. Dyer,
E. Stewart Humphreys,
Edmund H. Jones,
Walter Kitchin,
Albert Fairbanks,
Martin V. Corey,
Harold L. Jones,
George A. Soperbottom,
Harold Gurney,
Sam. H. Matthews,
Albert M. E. Smith,
William M. Price,
Russell E. Niles,
Charles E. Desjardins,
Albert M. Soudanek,
Moses Harding,
John E. Stevenson,
Thomas Z. Carpenter,
William C. White,

John Hodgson,
Charles M. Noland,
Charles A. F. Chapman,
Edward Hodgson,
Edward Thomas,
Thomas S. Moore,
Stephen Stanley,
Frank L. Cummings,
James Battersley,
Hassamur Marshall,
Charles W. Young,
Joseph Campbell,
George Johnson,
Raymond S. Gurney,
Sam. F. Hill,
Frank Battersley,
Charles W. H. Kingston,
Albert A. Smith,
David K. King,
John L. Baker,
Evel Gurney,
Albert D. Sprague,
William W. Eason,
John D. E. Baker,
James H. Harris,

David W. Robinson,
Thomas S. Gurney,
Albert H. Smith,
Levin S. Sprague,
Nathaniel B. Murphy,
George H. Dyer,
William W. Wheeler,
James Hinde,
Nathan J. Smith,
David A. Noland,
Alfred Pearson,
Thomas S. Smith,
John L. Torrey,
Gordon Loring,
Nathan B. Gurney,
William R. Hinde,
Nathan Farnham,
Samuel Hodgson,
Edward L. Smith,
Albert Bower,
Thomas Perry,
D. Sprague Hill,
Frank W. Thompson,
George T. Gurney,

The following is a list of exceptions:—

William P. Holly,
Martin V. Corey,
Samuel Gurney,
John E. Stevenson,
George A. Soperbottom,
John E. Matthews,
John D. King,
Shaler D. Herring,
William H. Tiffany,
Charles H. Ames,
Jarvis W. Robinson,
George A. Soperbottom,
Moses Harding,
Thomas A. Cobb,
Frank Bartosch,
Albert Bower,
Samuel Farnham,

Thomas S. Wainwright,
David Ross, N. H.,
Edward Gurney,
J. Stewart Gurney,
John L. Torrey,
Thomas M. Smith,
Edward Murphy,
Raymond K. King,
Charles E. Desjardins,
Albert P. Fairbanks,
John Dennis,
Charles H. Wood,
John Farnham,
Nathan Farnham,
Edward J. King,
George F. Gurney,
Samuel Farnham,

Nathan J. Smith,
David W. Gurney,
Albert M. E. Smith,
D. Sanford Hall,
Hassamur Marshall,
John Doran,
Alexander C. Hill,
John Gurney,
George W. Farnham,
Edmund K. Farnham,
John R. Blackinton,
George S. Farnham,
Charles H. Bushue,
Edward J. Farnham,
Timothy Perry,
Samuel Gurney,
Thomas S. Moore,

William M. Pyle,

Charles M. Noland,

The following is a list of nearly correct as could be ascertained of the position in the town at the time of the fire, with the amount paid to (less) monthly:—

Charles White	5.00	Charles S. Cummings	5.00
William H. Smith	4.00	Charles Carpenter	4.00
William A. Smith	4.00	Lural H. Chadwick	4.00
John Simms	4.00	Orin W. Gurney	4.00
George W. Matthews	4.00	Thomas Pearson	4.00

Daniel L. Tucker	\$12.00	Thomas R. Gay	\$3.00
George H. Thrasher	8.00	Jeremiah S. Rowe	18.00
Lloyd B. Hodges	2.00	Horace Miller	4.00
John L. Thayer	8.00	Abbie R. Thayer	8.00
Ensign E. Kelly	4.00	Emeline Wilmarth?	8.00
Thomas G. Hinton	6.00	Hannah Webb	8.00
John A. Whaley	2.00	Luey A. Jackson	8.00
Martin Berry	4.00	Caroline E. Lufrio	8.00
Horace C. Brown	6.00	Mary O'Neil	8.00
William E. Dunham	4.00	Mary A. Griffin	8.00
Thomas Panzera	8.00	Phebe T. Shepardson	8.00
John J. Rollins	8.00	Mary Flanagan	8.00
Herbert E. Whipple	4.00	Ruth Burchard	8.00
Edwin Whitney	8.00	Fannie Clapp	8.00
George H. T. Alfred	2.00	William Field	8.00
Charles W. Brown	2.00	Frances A. Meserve	8.00
Hiram L. Danforth	6.00	Alfred Fiske	4.00
William Kingsley		\$6.00	

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH.

Abel R. Block	\$6.00	John G. Doran	\$2.00
Daniel Crotty	4.00	Henry A. Blackinton	5.00
William H. Fisher	4.00	Eliza A. Clark	8.00
Benjamin F. Lincoln	4.00	Margaret Hattery	8.00
Perry A. Ballou	2.00	Kesiah Hall	8.00
Dexter B. Freeman	18.00	Rebecca Clark	8.00
Walter Katon	4.00	Maria S. Allen	8.00
Henry W. Stearns	2.00	Walter G. Clark	4.00
Helen M. Johnson	20.00	Celia Kent	8.00
Jane F. Williams	8.00	Vernal Stanley	8.00
Sarah Gilligan	8.00	Silas G. Wood	3.00
Dolly Thompson, 1812?		\$8.00	

CHAPTER IX.

CHURCHES AND THE MINISTRY.—FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

FOR almost fifty years the town constituted free parish, and was not settled until April 7, 1746. For several years after its incorporation it was not able to support a minister, owing to the small number of its inhabitants. Soon after the organization of the town affairs, however, steps were taken to obtain a pastor, and arrangements made for a place of abode for him. Extracts from the records, relating to some extent the early proceedings relative to the first church and the settlement of the first minister will be acceptable to the present generation.

March 6, 1704. The town ordered that twelve acres of land in the west-side lot should be fenced in: four acres were to be broken up and a house built, twenty-six feet long, twenty-eight feet wide, and thirteen feet stud; and there was to be a stack of three chimneys in the house, "with a Cellar under the biggest room," sixteen feet long and fourteen feet wide, and all to be completed by the last day of March, 1706. It would seem it was not completed until after the specified date, for on May 16, 1706, it was voted that the money in the hands of the town officers should be used for nails, etc., for use on the minister's house.

March 24, 1706. "The meeting here held was for the choosing of a learned orthodox minister of good native skill to dispense the word of God to us as *Abolitionists* voted to give Mr. Fuller a call to preach for us. Likewise a committee of nine was chosen to procure a minister to settle. It was likewise voted to empower the said committee to treat with the said Mr. Fuller as to *discharging* the word of God amongst us and to settle him if he may be obtained; and if he may not, then any other minister that the town shall call, being approved by the neighboring ministers."

May 30, 1707. "Voted to give Mr. Mincham the *apostolic* manse, and to settle if he may be obtained." In June, 1707, it was voted "that Hezekiah Peck and Jonathan Fuller be a committee to see and get a petition written to the General Court for some help towards the maintenance of a minister."¹ The sum of eighty pounds had been granted by the town November 22, 1705, towards building a minister's house, thirty-five pounds

¹ The petition was sent to the General Court, and the sum of eighty pounds was granted by the General Court towards the maintenance of a minister.

of which had been collected, and on July 2, 1707, the town voted that the remaining forty-five pounds should be levied and collected.

June 15, 1708. "The meeting then held was for the choosing of an able and orthodox minister to serve us in the work of the ministry in this place. It was voted that the committee should treat with Mr. Wiswell to dispense the word of God to us if he may be obtained; if not, then with Mr. Fisher, if he may be obtained; if not, then with Mr. Hunt, if he may be obtained; if not, then with Mr. Devotion, and if neither of them may be obtained, then they may treat with any other that shall be allowed of by the neighboring ministers, until they have settled one in Attleborough."¹

July 27, 1710. "Chose Mr. Ebenezer White for our minister, if he will stay with us, if not, then Mr. Myles." Mr. White, it appears, did not at this time accept the invitation to settle. He, however, preached for the people nearly a year.

October 9, 1710, the town chose a committee to see to the finishing of the meetinghouse, and the 1st of "January next ensuing" was the time fixed for finishing it. "Voted to raise a tax of £60 as a fund for said work, £5 to be in money, and the rest in corn, rye, beef and pork, or in materials for the building."

November 20, 1710. "Voted that the house which is built on the ministerial lot should be given to the first minister that shall serve the town seven years in the office of a minister, and so living and dying amongst us, then to be his and his heirs forever."²

October 1, 1711. At a meeting for the choice of an able, orthodox minister "to dispense the word of God to us in Attleborough," the town chose Mr. Matthew Short for their minister.

November 5, 1711. "Granted a tax of £25 towards paying Mr. Short; £10 in money and the other £15 in grain, pork, beef, butter, cheese at current price."

March 18, 1711-12. "Voted to build a pew for the minister in the meeting house, and also agreed that Mrs. Short shall have the benefit and privilege of sitting in the same during her abode in Attleborough."

Rev. Matthew Short accepted the call of the people and became the first settled minister in this town. He was the son of Henry Short, of Newbury. He was born March 14, 1688, and graduated at Harvard College in the class of 1707. He was quite a young man when he came here, twenty-three years of age. He was chosen, as has been seen, October 1, 1711, and ordained November 12, 1712. Difficulties soon arose between him and his

¹ The inhabitants were so few, consisting of about sixteen families exclusive of the fourteen who had been annexed to Rehoboth, that they were not able to afford a competent salary, which was probably the cause of their embarrassment in the settlement of a minister at first.

² The second settled minister acquired the property of this house and also the ministerial farm, as will subsequently appear, by having fulfilled the condition of the grant.

people while after many ineffectual attempts to reconcile them, finally resulted in his dismission. The trouble related to his salary, the matter was compromised and he dismissed May 31, 1710. He continued in this town only about four years, having preached one year before his ordination.

According to the articles of agreement made with Mr. Short December 29, 1711, he was to have fifty pounds a year for the first six years, one third to be in money and the other two thirds in grain, beef, pork, butter or cheese, any or either of them at current price.¹ At the seventh year his salary was to be raised to sixty pounds payable as above, and there to continue until there should be one hundred families in town capable of paying public taxes, in the judgment of the selectmen for the time being, and then it was to be seventy pounds per annum. He was also to have the use of the ministered house and lands so long as he should continue in his pastoral office.

Mr. Short was married to Margaret Freeman, of this town, by Justice Leonard, of Norton, December 27, 1711. They had two daughters while residing here, Anne and Judith. Of the previous or subsequent history of Mr. Short but little is known. He removed to Easton and became the first settled minister in that town, where he remained in harmony with his people till his death. He died in the year 1731, aged forty-three, leaving ten children, three sons and seven daughters. These were Matthew, Ebenezer, Glover, Anna, Judith, Margaret, Sarah, Elizabeth, Mary, and Lydia. Judith married — Hunt; Margaret, — Tingley; Sarah, — Orcut; Elizabeth, — Noyes. It is said that Mr. Short "left a considerable real estate which was divided among his children."²

The first meetinghouse was built in 1710. At a town meeting February 9, 1709-10, it was "voted to build a meeting house thirty feet square and sixteen feet between joints, and to set it upon a piece of land on the east side of the country road near to the house of Christopher Hall, and to get the timber for said house and to frame and raise it by the first of June next." This building was not, however, entirely completed until 1714. It was,

¹ These last articles of agreement were afterwards changed, so that the salary was to be in money only, and the amount was increased to one hundred pounds per annum. The following is the original agreement as it stood when first made:

A covenant made the 29th Decr. 1711, between the Rev. Mr. William Short, of the County of Worcester, in the Province of New England, and the Town of Easton, in the County of Worcester, in the Province of New England, touching the salary of the said Mr. Short, as follows:

Witnessed in presence of

That the said Mr. Short, doth hereby covenant and agree with the said Town of Easton, that he will serve the said Town of Easton, as their minister, for the term of six years, beginning from the first of June next, and that he will accept of the salary of fifty pounds per annum, to be paid to him by the said Town of Easton, in the manner following, to wit: That the said Town of Easton, shall pay to the said Mr. Short, the sum of thirty pounds per annum, in money, and the sum of twenty pounds per annum, in grain, beef, pork, butter or cheese, any or either of them at current price.

And the said Mr. Short, doth hereby covenant and agree with the said Town of Easton, that he will serve the said Town of Easton, as their minister, for the term of six years, beginning from the first of June next, and that he will accept of the salary of fifty pounds per annum, to be paid to him by the said Town of Easton, in the manner following, to wit: That the said Town of Easton, shall pay to the said Mr. Short, the sum of thirty pounds per annum, in money, and the sum of twenty pounds per annum, in grain, beef, pork, butter or cheese, any or either of them at current price.

according to the vote, thirty feet square and stood on the spot where the hall of the Agricultural Society formerly stood, this lot having been given to the town by Lieutenant Moses Read for public purposes.

In October, 1711, the town gave the committee "full power to finish the meeting-hous within and without, makeing of Dors Laying of a floore, makeing of seets, makeing of a pulpit and glazing of the windows, and all the finishing work except the galories." August, 1712, the committee was empowered "to finish said meeting-hous, with gallories or any other finishing work, and Likewise at the same time agreed with Joseph Ingraham to give him ten shillings for one year to Look after the meeting-hous, to sweep it and keep it clean." Four years later the price for this work had advanced to thirteen shillings per year.

In 1715 a ministerial barn was built by order of the town.

The second minister in town was Rev. Ebenezer White. He was chosen by the people July 18, 1715. August 27, 1716, "the town very unanimously agreed *four*¹ pounds, and he himself to provide himself firewood, the one half in money and the other half in grain or beef or pork or butter or cheese all good and merchantable at current price with us. This to be annually."

Mr. White was the son of James White, of Dorchester, Mass. He was born July 3, 1685, and baptized July 12. He graduated at Harvard College in 1704. He was ordained here October 17, 1716, having supplied the pulpit for some time previous to his settlement. He was minister of the town eleven years and remained here till his death, September 4, 1726. So far as appears, he gave general satisfaction. He married Abigail Paine and had several children — Hannah, who married Joseph Guild, November 11, 1741; Martha, Edward, Experience, and Thankful, and two others who died infants.

Besides his regular salary, Mr. White acquired a title to the ministerial farm and house, so called, by having remained the town minister the length of time required by the grant.

At a meeting of the proprietors of the North Purchase, September 16, 1707, it was unanimously voted "that the surveyors with the major part of the committee should forthwith lay out a hundred acres of land within said Purchase, which shall be the first settled minister's in Attleborough, that continueth to be their minister for the space of seven years: said land to be said minister's, and his heirs and assigns forever." — *N. P. Rec. 2d Book, p. 3. Laid out and recorded 1st Book, p. 197-199.*

Several other grants and gifts have been made to the town for the use of the ministry.

¹ This sum is so small, the record must be erroneous. Probably the four should be forty, even then a smaller salary than was paid to the former minister. — EDITOR.

The *attleborough* lot, which has been a subject of no small controversy in modern days, was granted at an adjourned meeting of the proprietors held at Rensselaer House Dec. 20, 1786, in the words following: "It was likewise voted and agreed upon (almost unanimously) that a hundred acres of land be forthwith laid out at the Severn Mill River, where Ross Landlord's lot was, and as near adjacent as may be, which said hundred acres of land perpetually to be reserved for the Ministry."—*Richmond Town Rec. 2d H. p. 48*.—*Town Record N. P. Rec. 1st H. p. 197*.—*Abstract 2d H. p. 28*.—*Minutes of the 1st H. p. 17, 18, 25*.

As before mentioned, the lot where the first meetinghouse stood, was given by Lieutenant Moses Ross.

Oct. 30, 1733.—Laid out to Lieut. Moses Ross two acres of land to the meeting house: bounded south, by a street and; east, the foot of the hill; north, the land of the heirs of Christopher Hall; west, the country road. The above said land the said Lieut. Ross gave to the town of Attleborough for public use forever, and ordered it so to be put in record, as to attest by law.

—*Deerfield Smith, Clerk.*

N. P. Rec. 1st H. p. 197.

"Allowance for a highway through said lot."

N. P. Rec. 1st H. p. 197.

November 1, 1734. "Noah Carpenter, Sen. and Caleb Hall of Attleborough, in consideration of love, good will and affection what we have and do bear towards the church and congregation of the said Attleborough, called by the name of the Presbyterian, have given, granted, conveyed etc. unto them their heirs and assigns forever, that is to be understood for the especial use, benefit and privilege of that society forever, a certain tract of land containing about forty-five rods, where the new meeting house now stands, bounded by the said Carpenter's and the said Hall's lands and by the country road," etc.—*H. N. P. Rec. 2d H. p. 199 and 200*.—*March 1st, 1736*, the town passed the following resolution: "Where as there is a Church Now settled by ye Town of Attleborough called a Presbyterian Church, which all Inhabitants of ye Town are by ye Law of this province obliged to support and whereas there is some of ye Inhabitants of ye Town that Do belong to other Churches, who Differ from ye sd Church in Attleboro: in their principles, and ye Inhabitants of sd Attleboro being Desirous to Treat them as they themselves should be willing to be Treated in such Like Cause, are freely willing that all such persons as Now Do or hereafter shall belong to other Churches of Different principles as aforesd. Shall be freed from bearing Cost & Charge with ye Rest of ye Inhabitants of sd Town, Respecting ye Support of Ye Church in Attleboro: provided that all such persons Belonging to other Churches as aforesd. Do Make it appear to ye select Men of sd Town at the month of August yearly, as they shall be asked to any other Churches as

aforesd : by Bringing Certificats from ye Elders or Teachers of ye Respectively belong to that they do belong to their Church or Churches and are in full Communion with them ; and this voat is to be in force untill ye Town by a vote shall make Void ye Same."

October 11, 1726. "And then ye Town voted that they would Chouze some persons of ye Town to Joyn with such persons as ye Church in sd Town should appoint to be a Committee to Take Care & provide a suitable person to be a pasture or minister of ye Church & Town : that is to Take Care untill such Time as a vote of sd Church & Town shall be Necessary as to ye Resettlement of a Gospel minister in sd Town." Four persons were chosen from the church, namely: Deacon John Fuller, Deacon Mayhew Daggett, Mr. Benjamin Slack, Mr. Samuel Tyler ; and four from the town, namely: Captain Daniel Read, Captain John Foster, Mr. Samuel Day, Mr. Noah Carpenter.

"On ye Last Day of June Anno Domini, 1727, at a meeting held, the Town Did unanimously Concur with the Church's vote in ye Choice of ye sd Mr. Habijah Weld to be their minister." He was to receive "one hundred pounds in money or in Bills of paper creditt yearly During ye Term of his Natural Life in ye Work of the ministry within sd Town, and Likewise ye ministerial Lot the house & Barn and all other privileges to the same belonging during the above term—and for his further encouragement the town doth freely agree and vote ; that they will give to the said Mr. Weld, two hundred pounds in money, or one hundred and fifty pounds in money and fourty acres of land lying on each side the road between the meeting house and David Fullers, either of which he the said Mr. Weld shall ye cause to accept of and it is further voted and agreed that the hundred pounds above said is all wages to hold ye same in vallue as it is this day. Allowing paper creditt at fourteen shillings for one ounce of silver and so to rise or fall as paper creditt shall rise or fall in proportion as above said"—

Just before Mr. Weld came the town voted to choose a committee "to repair ye ministerial house and fence."

Mr. Weld accepted the pastorate in the following manner :—

ATTLEBOROUGH, September 28, 1727.

To the Church and people of Church in Attleborough

Greeting. Whereas ye have manifested your Love to and Respect for me in Choosin me for ye pastoral office among you, (Notwithstanding my unworthyness of your Esteem, and of an employ in a work so Sacred and Honorable, I Do now testify my Gratitude to you for ye Respect shewn me and my Compliance with your Request to settle with you upon ye Terms you have proposed : but in Case my Necessities should increase upon me, so that my Salary be insufficient for my Maintainance I shall Depend upon you for ye addition of what shall be Convenient for my Comfortable and Honorable Subsistance During my Continuance with you as a minister of ye Gospel, and inasmuch as ye have Generously granted me 200 pounds money, or a Hundred and fifty pounds in money and 40 acres of Land for a settlement, and have given me ye Liberty of Chousing that which shall be most agreeable to me, I Do now Declare that I make Choice of and shall Gratefully accept of Land with ye 150 pounds in money, and as ye have made such provision for my Support while I shall Continue among you so I shall think it my

of genuine hospitality, and was always prepared to contribute to the necessities of others.

• For the regulation of his domestic concerns Mr. Weld prescribed to himself and his family a fixed system of rules, which were invariably observed and contributed not a little to the pleasantness and prosperity of his life. His children, laborers, and servants submitted to them with cheerfulness, and his house became the seat of absolute industry, peace, and good order. Breakfast was on the table precisely at six o'clock; dinner, at twelve; and supper, at six in the evening. After supper he neither made visits himself nor permitted any of his family to make them.

• His observation of the Sabbath was peculiarly exemplary. He permitted no acts to be done in his house on that day except such as were acts of necessity and mercy in the strictest sense.

• Mr. Weld was naturally of a very ardent disposition. Yet, so entirely had he acquired an ascendancy over his temper, that a censurable or imprudent act is not known to have been done by him, nor an improper word uttered. To vice and licentiousness in every form he gave no indulgence either in his conversation or his public instructions. On the contrary, idleness, intemperance, profaneness, and all kinds of immoral conduct were reproved by him with undeviating severity. His example in the practice of every virtue was such as to create in all classes of men entire veneration for his character. It is doubted whether any person ever uttered a reproach against Mr. Weld.

• Nor was his piety less remarkable. Since the days of the Apostles, it is questioned whether his zeal, fidelity, and intrepidity in the cause of his divine Master have been excelled. During the long period of fifty-five years he was never once detained from the pulpit by disease nor from any other of his pastoral duties. His prayers were wholly formed by himself and adapted with strict propriety to the various occasions on which they were made. They were pertinent, solemn, and impressive. His sermons were written, and were usually delivered without variation from his notes. Yet at times he addressed his congregation extemporaneously in a manner eminently forcible and affecting.

• In his parochial visits he was accustomed to address the truths and duties of the gospel to the hearts and consciences of the family and never lost sight of the eternal interests of his congregation. And, while he administered the balm of life to the wounded spirit, he addressed the most solemn alarms, as well as the most pungent reproofs, to stubbornness and impiety.

• Mr. Weld continued his labors to the Sabbath before his death without any visible decline in his powers either of body or mind. On that Sabbath he preached two sermons from these words: 'He that believeth, and is baptized, shall be saved; and he that believeth not shall be damned.' On the Tuesday following he rode in his chaise to Providence, ten miles, returned about four o'clock in the afternoon, walked into his house; told his wife that

the unexpressed, expected, but in some instances, on the former a difficulty in breathing, on some well and easily expected, an Apoplexy. So well were his medical services arranged that the depositions that the settlement of his estate cost less than two dollars. His sympathy with married life made some and most others feel poorer the more of widowhood, personally lamented.

At the death of Mr. Weld only one of his congregation was living, at home, surrounded by its members. His surviving friends, their sons, of the last plan, they continued in his death by a married woman. (The same could be said of the Hymn-writers.)

The ladies of the congregation were the women of many distinguished persons from Eastern, Western, and foreign. After guests at New England and in no house were they received and treated with more hospitality. His manners were at once dignified and polite, and every member of his family was courteous and well bred. Nothing was more common than that harmony and good will.

That with such an income Mr. Weld could support so large a family and live in so hospitable a manner will certainly excite not a little wonder. The explanation is found in his industry, regularity, and exactness in all his concerns. Everything was managed in such a manner that almost in the literal sense nothing was lost.

"In my opinion," adds Mr. D., "Mr. Weld was a more strict observer of the divine law and more eminently holy than any man whom I ever knew."

"Permit me to subjoin," says Dr. Dwight, "that if all clergymen sustained the same character and lived in the same manner the world would speedily assume a new aspect and its inhabitants a new character."

Mr. Weld married Miss Fess, of Worcester, wife first January 7, 1797, the first time since the year of his age. He had by her three children, two sons and eleven daughters, several of whom were married, as follows: Jonathan, birthdate at Boston to Daniel Weld, August 5, 1799; Ray, Grand Noble, of Newburyport, to Isaac Weld, May 30, 1800; Dr. Charles Parker, of Concord, Conn., to Mary Weld, April 10, 1802; by Hannah Weld, (Miss Fuller, of Windsor, county of Ware, Maine, to Hannah Weld, October 28, 1807; Rev. Ezra Weld to Anna Weld, February 8, 1808; Rev. Oliver Snow, of Brimfield, to Elizabeth Weld, July 20, 1808; Rev. Timothy Allen, of Yarmouth, to Sarah Weld, November 30, 1810; Eliza, Dea. of Atholborough, to Eunice Weld.

Mr. Weld was buried at South Atholborough in his own parish, and his wife also. On his gravestone is the following inscription:—

The Rev. Mr. William Weld of Atholborough, son of Mrs. Mary Fess, of Worcester, December 28, 1797, died at his home, Atholborough, June 10, 1811.

His estate was sold under the direction of the court.

His funeral was held on the 12th inst. at Atholborough, June 12, 1811.

The Remains of the Rev. Habijah Weld
M. A. late the faithful, worthy and be-
loved pastor of the first Church of Christ
in Attleborough.

He was born Sept. 2d, 1702

He was ordained Oct. 1st, 1727

He died May 14th, 1782, in the 80th year
of his age, and the 55th of his pastorate.

Farewell, vain world, as thou hast been to me,
Dust and a shadow — these I leave with thee.
The unseen vital substance I commit
To him that's Substance, Life, Light, Love to it.

The following is the inscription on his wife's gravestone: —

January 7th, 1799,

Departed this life, Mrs. Mary Weld
Relict to the late Rev. Habijah Weld
of Attleborough, in the 93d year of
her age.

Passenger, aspire to her age,
But to imitate her life
As a real ornament
To the Christian profession.

In 1728 a new meetinghouse was built by the town. May 13, 1728, the town voted to enlarge the meetinghouse by making an addition of twenty feet to the north end. But in September following sixty-two individuals engaged by subscription to advance the sum of £234 10s., in addition to their proportion of the taxes, towards defraying the expenses of a new meeting-house, if the town would agree to build anew, instead of enlarging the old house. This money was to be paid within the space of one year and eight months; and timber, boards, etc., these men would furnish at the marketable prices, "All which when advanced as above sd. shall be for ye use of ye Whole Town as absolutely as though the Town by a Tax had done sd. work."

The town accordingly voted November 28, 1728, to build a new meeting-house and ordered it to be fifty feet in length, forty feet in breadth, and of a suitable height for one tier of galleries, and that it "shall stand on a little hill on the north side of the Pound, about fifteen or sixteen rods from the old meeting house." It was also voted "that those parts of the town which may be hereafter set off as a precinct or town shall have the money repaid to them, which they now pay towards the new meeting house."

The town constituted one parish until April 7, 1743, when it was divided into "two distinct and separate" parishes or precincts by an act of the Legislature. The west constituted the *first*, and the east the *second* precinct.

EXTRACTS FROM THE RECORDS OF THE FIRST PARISH.

The ministerial house and lands were sold in 1737.

September 18, 1744. The sum of £12 14s. was granted to the second precinct. This was probably a part of their share in the meetinghouse.

March 27, 1777.¹ The salary of Rev. Samuel M. Wells, was £20 10s. 4d. September 21, 1777.² Voted to give Rev. Mr. Wells's salary to \$500. Paper currency was much depreciated. September 28, 1778, Voted to double his salary for the year.

March 28, 1780. A meeting was called to see if the President will apply to your committee to assist Mr. Wells, in the work of the ministry, under his present independence of body," etc. — Voted that the Pres. Deacons see that the point is supplied in case Mr. Wells is unable to preach.³ Any action in this meeting was unnecessary, as has been seen.

June 11, 1782. A meeting was held "to see if the Presbtery will agree to pay the funeral charges of the Rev. Mr. Wells late of Andoverburgh deceased." Pres. was moved: "to see if the Presbtery will choose a committee to send a supply recommended by the death of our late Pastor."

From this time till the settlement of Mr. Wilkes in 1800—nearly eight years—the people were destitute of a settled minister. The people were very much divided on this subject. Many unsuccessful attempts were made to settle a minister; numerous candidates were called, but the people could make no choice. They had been long united and harmonious under the ministry of Mr. Wells; some diversity of opinion and alienation of feeling arose on his appointment after so long a rule.

August 27, 1782. Voted "to hire Rev. Mr. Morey six weeks longer." October 16, 1782, a meeting was called "to see if the Presbtery will give Mr. Morey a call for another year longer." etc. — Voted to give him a call.⁴ 2d. "Voted to re-consider it."

February 20, 1783. Voted "that we will commit an account of money relative to Ministerial Lands." There was a dispute between the two parishes for a long time in regard to their relative rights to these lands, which was finally terminated, I believe, by payment of a certain sum to the second parish. At the same meeting, "voted to hire Rev. Mr. Bradford three months." Voted "to buy one hundred acres of land by Rev. M. Fletcher in the death of Rev. Mr. Wells." Voted "to apply to Rev. Mr. Spalding, of Killingly, Conn. to come and preach a few weeks." August 18, 1783. Voted "to send to the President of Yale College a committee." He accordingly sent three young men, who it appears, were not dissatisfied. January 30, 1784. — Voted "to send a committee to consult Joseph Treadwell⁵ concerning the Ministerial Lands."

¹ Mr. Wells's salary was paid by the Committee of the Congregational Society, and was not paid by the Church. The Congregational Society was not organized until 1784.

² The salary of Rev. Mr. Wells was paid by the Congregational Society, and was not paid by the Church. The Congregational Society was not organized until 1784.

³ The salary of Rev. Mr. Wells was paid by the Congregational Society, and was not paid by the Church. The Congregational Society was not organized until 1784.

⁴ The salary of Rev. Mr. Wells was paid by the Congregational Society, and was not paid by the Church. The Congregational Society was not organized until 1784.

December 15, 1783, Rev. Mr. Britt was preaching as a candidate; subsequently Rev. Mr. Avery, then a Mr. March, Mr. Hart, of Preston, Conn., Mr. Damon, Mr. Plum. "Voted to send for Mr. Huntington to preach for us." Before the arrival of Mr. Wilder many other names of candidates appear. So irreconcilable were the feelings or opinions, or both, of the parish that it seemed next to impossible to make a selection. So great was the distress of the people amidst their divisions that they at last appointed a "Fast on account of their present difficulties." In this they hit upon the right expedient, for it seemed to have a very happy effect, as they soon after agreed on a candidate, the Rev. John Wilder, who at a meeting January 4, 1790, gave an answer accepting the proposals of the parish, which terminated their long and troublesome contest.

Mr. Wilder was born in Templeton, Conn., March 12, 1758. His parents were Jonas and Elizabeth Wilder, who removed to Lancaster (N. H.?) in 1776. He graduated at Dartmouth College in 1784, studied theology with Dr. Hart, of Preston, Conn., and was ordained here January 27, 1790. The sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Levi Hart, his theological instructor, and was published September 2, 1790. Mr. Wilder married Esther Tyler, daughter of Colonel Samuel Tyler, of Preston, Conn. She died January 19, 1811. His second wife was Mrs. Elizabeth Austin, of New Hartford, Conn., sister of Dr. E. D. Griffin. She died at Austingburg in March, 1847, aged seventy-two.

Mr. Wilder published several addresses: "A Discourse on the Federal Fast," delivered May 9, 1798, printed by Nathaniel and Benjamin Heaton at Wrentham; an "Address to the Attleborough Agricultural Society," etc., delivered February 22, 1805, printed at Providence by Heaton and Williams; a funeral sermon on the death of Elisha May, November, 1811; "A Funeral Discourse on the Death of Dea. Lane."

Mr. Wilder was dismissed November 28, 1822. He had been the settled minister of the parish upwards of thirty-two years. He died February 12, 1836. He left numerous children. One daughter, Eliza, married Hon. Lemuel May, of this town. She died in 1831, aged thirty-nine. Mr. Wilder was buried in this town, and Rev. Elisha Fiske, of Wrentham, preached his funeral sermon. The inscription on his gravestone is as follows:—

Rev. John Wilder,
An able and devoted Minister
of Jesus Christ, and for
more than 33 years,
Pastor of the First
Congregational Church
in this town.
Died Feb. 12th, 1836.
Aged 77 years.

To long-remembered Rev. Thomas Williams, formerly of Connecticut, was paid (until September 26, 1874). His connection with the parish was dissolved December 11, 1827.

The next settled minister was Rev. Charles J. Warren, who was ordained February 28, 1828, and dismissed July 2, 1839. He died in New York in 1887, aged eighty-six.

After the dismissal of Mr. Warren, Rev. Mr. Chapin became the pastor. He was next the church from 1839 to 1840. Before in the latter year succeeded the Rev. Samuel Colburn. He died in New York, December 10, 1854. Rev. Mr. Otis was the pastor in 1841.

Rev. John M. H. Bailey was the next pastor. He was born in Dedham, N. H., June 1, 1817, the son of William and Sarah (Baker). He spent some years in the family of his uncle, Rev. Abraham Burnham, D.D., of Portland. From an early age he earnestly desired to obtain a collegiate education and to enter one of the learned professions. He prosecuted his studies for a time under great difficulties, both from ill health and restricted means, and finally abandoned the idea of a college course and entered a lawyer's office in Albany, N. Y. At the end of three years, instead of commencing the practice of the law, he entered the Theological Seminary at Gilmanton, N. H., to study for the ministry. He remained there four years. He was licensed to preach by the Suffolk North Association, April 23, 1839. After a time he came to this parish to preach as a candidate and soon received a call to become pastor of the church.

He was ordained here December 30, 1840, Professor Warner, from Gilmanton, coming to preach the sermon. His ministry lasted but ten years, and during all that time his feeble health was the cause of hindrances and interruptions in his work. At the end of the tenth year he resigned his charge, the resignation being sent to the society from his sick-room. He died February 24, 1851, after a protracted and painful illness.

He married in 1841 Sarah M., daughter of Deacon Caleb Johnson, of Manchester, N. H. She died at Waltham, Mass. June 7, 1880, and was buried in Mount Hope Cemetery by the side of her husband.

Mr. Bailey prepared an address for the consecration of Mount Hope Cemetery, *Mount Hope place*, June 2, 1850. This was read on the occasion, he being too feeble to deliver it himself. After his death it was published.

Rev. Mr. Blodgett, of Pawtucket, in preaching Mr. Bailey's funeral sermon, said: "He had done his work. And our wonder is, that he was so long enabled to sustain at all the labors of the ministry, and to accomplish so much as he did. He was a man of unusual piety. His most intimate and familiar acquaintance has left the conviction undoubted, that he was a man of deep religious experience, of ardent and thorough piety.

"The deceased was candid, cautious, and conscientious in his judgment of men, their opinions, character, motives and acts. Holding his own views

with a sufficient firmness and self-reliance, he would tolerate a difference of views in others, without severe reprehension, or cold repulsion.

“ A favorite object with him, not only for the accommodation of his own family, but for the good of the church and society, and the comfort of his successors in the pastoral office, was the erection of a parsonage. This object he lived to see accomplished very much to his mind, in the commodious house, from which he was carried to the house appointed for all the living.

“ His services, as a preacher, in all the pulpits of this vicinity, were ever highly acceptable and creditable both to his intellect and his heart. In his Association he was a ‘ Brother beloved ’ and respected for Christian candor, courtesy and benevolence, — for his exhibition of so much of the ‘ meekness and gentleness of Christ,’ and for his attainments in Christian theology, and religious experience.”

Mr. Bailey died at the age of forty-three, “ universally respected and much lamented.” He had taken an active interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the community, “ especially in the cause of common school education.” As a man his character was appreciated and his labors estimated at their proper value. After his death the choice of a lot was offered Mrs. Bailey by the proprietors of Mount Hope Cemetery. A subscription was started, to which generous responses were made, sufficient to procure a handsome monument. On July 2, 1851, the anniversary of the dedication, his remains were removed to the cemetery “ and the monument erected with appropriate ceremonies.”

“ It is a shaft, seven feet high, of white marble, and contains the following expressive inscription : —

In Memory of
 Rev. John M. B. Bailey,
 Pastor of the First Congregational Church in Attleborough;
 Born in Dunbarton, N. H., June 5, 1807,
 Ordained Dec. 30, 1840,
 Died Feb. 24, 1851, aged 43 years;
 Author of the Address for the Consecration of this Cemetery,
 July 2, 1850.
 Which now opens its portals to enshrine his remains
 among its earliest tenants.
 This Monument is erected by the Citizens of Attleborough,
 as a token of their gratitude for
 his services in the cause of Education, their high
 respect for the many
 virtues of his ministerial and private life, their deep
 regret for his early decease, and their
 lasting regard for his
 memory.
 ‘ Let me die the death of the Righteous,
 And let my last end be like his.’ ”

Rev. S. B. Morley was ordained here July 9, 1851, and dismissed March 25, 1857.

Rev. B. C. Cheney of Concord, Mass., was settling pastor from August 29, 1857, to December 24, 1859, and Rev. Daniel Blood from March 1, 1860, to March 1, 1861.

Rev. H. P. De Forest came to the church in January, 1867, and was dismissed in January, 1869.

The next was the present pastor, the Rev. John Whitehill. He was born in Falmouth, Scotland, August 17, 1805, and came to this country with his father's family when he was eleven years of age. He fitted for college partly under the private instruction of Rev. George A. Ordway of Concord, Mass., and partly at Museum Academy, from which institution he went to Amherst College in 1824. He graduated in 1828 and went immediately to Andover Theological Seminary, graduating from there in 1831.

Before leaving the seminary he had been invited to preach at the Congregational church in South Wilmamut, New Hampshire, Mass. He commenced his labors there as soon as his course of study was completed, and was ordained and installed there December 11 of the same year, 1831. In 1832 he returned his resignation, but withdrew it at the solicitation of the people and remained another year. In June, 1833, having been again solicited, his resignation was accepted.

After this he preached for a few months in the Presbyterian church in Liverpool, N. Y. (near Syracuse), but his father's death in the autumn of 1833 recalled him to the east. His labors in this town began in the spring of 1834, and March 28, a few months after his ordination, Rev. Mr. De Forest, had left the church.

Mr. Whitehill at once identified himself with the interests not only of his church and parish, but with those of the entire town. He has been repeatedly elected to positions of trust, and almost continuously since becoming a pastor, besides laboring faithfully and unceasingly among his own people, he has been actively engaged in public work for the town.

He was chosen a member of the school committee in 1837, and was chairman of the same until 1875, in which year he resigned the position. In 1880 he was re-elected a member of the school committee, continuing until November, 1885, when he again resigned. He was chairman of the building committee which in 1881 erected the two town High School buildings, and held the same position when in 1884 three new buildings were erected of a sufficient capacity to accommodate ten of the common schools.

In 1882 he was chosen Representative to the State Legislature and the following year was re-elected to the same office. The nomination to this position was unsolicited on the part of Mr. Whitehill. It was entirely the gift of his fellow-citizens, a proof of their confidence and regard and worthy of equal notice to those that of state honors and public office appointments.

According to law, Mr. Whitehill was entitled to Clerk of Court of Suffolk, Mass. Since that November 8, 1865, having been once elected

Hunt Whitehill, born October 30, 1865, and a graduate from Amherst College in the class of 1887. May 4, 1869, Mr. Whitehill married Lizzie A. Parmenter, of Sudbury. Their children are Clara, born June 14, 1870; Florence, born June 1, 1872, died July 31, 1873; Robert, born May 5, 1874; Alfred, born July 8, 1876; Miriam, born January 22, 1879; Walter, born April 16, 1881; Hilda, born May 3, 1883; Philip, born February 10, 1886. (Mrs. Whitehill died January 13, 1890.)

The present meetinghouse is the third in this society and was built in the summer of 1828, the building before built, the second, having stood just a century. It was dedicated January 1, 1829, and is now substantially the same as when first erected. Externally there have been no alterations, and internally only slight changes, such as removing pew doors, lowering the pulpit platform, making space for the large organ, and decorating with more modern paint and paper, with carpets to correspond, such as the taste of the present day demands.

Some of the oldtime customs of this church and society are still kept up. Mr. Henry F. May, who has been chorister for many years, still leads the singing "on the Lord's day," and Mrs. May presides at the organ. The annual, cheerful social gathering of friends and former residents of the parish with the present dwellers therein still continues. The mere mention of the clambake of Red Rock Hill will call a host of pleasant recollections to many minds. One lady, a native of the parish, but a resident of the east precinct for many years, tells with pride that she has attended twenty-three of these gatherings. May she be spared to attend yet more.

A curious fact is related of the old parsonage house in which Mr. Weld — the pastor for above half a century — dwelt. Mr. Samuel Dunster, the present occupant, when taking down the great square chimney some years since, found in it part of a gravestone with the name Weld inscribed upon it. The conjecture is that "the stone must have been spoiled in the making" and then utilized by being built into the house chimney, a conjecture entirely consistent with what we know of Mr. Weld and, indeed, of the times, when of necessity the people literally fulfilled the scriptural injunction to "gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost."

The Drapers still follow the time-honored fashion of having a family gathering on Thanksgiving Day. Of the fourteen children in the present family who lived to grow up, the youngest is over fifty years of age; the oldest is still living — as are several between — and is still prominent in this society.

There are no means of ascertaining the number of the original members of the First Church. There were upwards of thirty families in the town at the time of its incorporation. As a larger proportion of the inhabitants in those days were church members than is the case at the present time, a conjecture may be made as to the membership. Allowing but one and a small fraction

to push Sunday schools may probably at the foregoing have been about forty teachers, and numerous cents later, when the first anniversary was settled, this number may have been somewhat increased.

For thirty years this was the only church in town, and during that period its membership doubtless increased considerably. Before it has discontinued since a number of its members to form other churches in town, as will be seen in summary following. It is still the only church "within a radius of about three miles," but its situation prevents its having large additions to its society. This is in a less populous part of the town than formerly. Few congregations offer themselves there as means of livelihood, or of success in life, and therefore many of the young people emigrate.

The church has at present sixty-eight members, with an average congregation of one hundred and a Sabbath-school averaging an attendance of ninety-five (1887).

BETHANY CHAPEL.

During the past thirty years religious services have been held in the school-house at South Attleborough, it being difficult for all living there who desired to do so to attend the church at "Old Town," or several of the distanced farms in the Western village. In 1874 a Sunday-school was started by Rev. Mr. Westcott, assisted by two young ladies of the village, and in 1882 it was decided to commence raising a fund to build a chapel.

Early in the year 1880 this fund amounted to \$1,000, and at that time land was given by Mr. William Coupe. On October 15 of that year a society was organized and incorporated by law, calling itself the "Bethany Chapel Association." Its president was William Coupe; vice-president, William P. Shaw; secretary and treasurer, Daniel A. White, and four trustees were elected, three of them being ladies.

Generous hearts have prompted busy hands, and their earnest, continued work has for its result an attractive and sufficiently commodious chapel building. It is fifty-six feet long, thirty-five feet wide, contains an audience room and a Sunday-school room, over which is a small gallery. It is well finished, and furnished in good taste, with all the appointments modern demands now make necessary, including a basement room "for social purposes," with a kitchen environment, "well supplied with all that is necessary in such a place."

The cost of the building, furnace, etc., was \$5,000, of which amount, as yet but \$1,000 has been paid. Gifts above this amount have been presented, of fully \$800 in value. Besides giving the land, Mr. Coupe gave the seats; Mr. A. A. White, a handsome chandelier of twenty lamps, and the wall lamps; the South Attleborough Mission School presented the organ; and Mr. Asa Robinson gave the pulpit chairs. The pulpit, Bible, bookcase, and basement furnishings are also gifts. The value of the chapel and land is \$5,000, and the people of the village deserve great credit for their activity and earnestness in the good work of obtaining the so much needed place of worship.

The dedication took place on the evening of April 14, 1887, and a large audience from all parts of the town, from Pawtucket, Providence, and other places, filled the building. The exercises were interesting and included much fine music. The dedication sermon was preached by Rev. H. P. De Forest, of Taunton. An historical sketch was read by Mr. Damon White, in which among other interesting facts it was stated that on the first Sabbath in June, 1882, it was announced in the Sunday-school that fifty cents per week of the contributions should be given to the Woman's Board of Missions, and the remainder be kept toward the building of the chapel. On that Sunday the contribution was fifty-two cents. The two pennies were compared to a snow-ball, which ever increases as it rolls, until it finally becomes very large; and so the school had been adding pennies and dollars, until at that time the "chapel ball" amounted to \$762.50, a large sum compared with the small beginning and the length of time the ball had been rolling.

So once again the old "First Church" sends forth another group of her children to work in the "good old way" for the world's welfare, but this time—though they have a home of their own—she still keeps them, in a measure, under her own fostering care, and they may still gather under the old roof which has sheltered them so long, near the spot where our fathers first gathered in Attleborough for the public worship of God.

EAST PARISH. — THE SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

This parish, by a division of the whole into two parts, was separated from the other April 7, 1743, nearly one hundred and fifty years ago. This was done by an act of the Legislature.

The towns originally in this State constituted the religious societies, but in the course of time, as population increased, these were divided territorially—and by metes and bounds—and all the inhabitants within these minutely described territorial limits who had been admitted freemen were members of the societies. This was at a time when there were no religious divisions among the people. But in the course of time religious distinctions arose, and various provisions were made as they became necessary to meet these exigencies.

The division of this town into two territorial parishes in 1743 was not made in consequence of any religious differences, none such having then arisen, but wholly on account of the great inconvenience to many of the inhabitants of attending public worship at such a great distance from their homes. This will be readily understood when it is remembered that at the time of its incorporation and up to this time, a period of almost fifty years, Attleborough included what is now Cumberland, R. I.—an area of over seventy square miles in all,—and the only meetinghouse within its limits was the one at Oldtown, whose history has just been traced.

It appears by the records of the next meeting that they had hired Mr. Thacher for a time. He was the first minister who preached here. He commenced August 20, 1743, but was not ordained and settled till November 30, 1748, above five years later.

September 6, 1743, "Voted to proceed forthwith to build a meeting house for the public worship of God." The house was to be thirty-five feet square and high enough for one tier of galleries. A committee was chosen "to carry on the building of said house," consisting of the following gentlemen, namely, John Sweet, Joseph Capron, Stephen Wilmarth, Thomas Sweet, and Obadiah Carpenter. At a subsequent meeting, October 18, 1743, "voted to reconsider the vote relating to the dimensions of the meeting house, and to build one forty-five feet long, and thirty-five feet wide, and high enough for one tier of galleries." This was the size of the house as it was afterwards built. The meetinghouse was commenced in the autumn of this year, but the interior was not finished till several years subsequently. One hundred and fifty pounds was appropriated for the building.

On the 1st of November following, the parish made choice of Rev. Peter Thacher for their minister "by a free vote" and agreed to give him for a salary forty pounds yearly for four years, and at the end of four years to give him fifty pounds per annum, "current money," and also, for a settlement, three hundred pounds, "old tenor," to be paid in four years, that is, one quarter part each year.

December 21, 1747, "Voted to give Mr. Thacher £600 old tenor for his settlement; and also 25 cords of wood yearly."

October 28, 1748. Settled Mr. Thacher's salary at four hundred pounds per annum, old tenor, "reckoning silver money at fifty-five shillings per ounce, and to rise and fall as silver shall rise and fall, so long as he shall continue our minister." At the same time the parish "chose a committee of five to see to the ordination of Rev. Mr. Thacher," which took place the thirtieth of the next month. He continued the pastor until October 26, 1784, when he was dismissed by vote of the parish. He had a few months previous to his dismissal suffered an attack of paralysis, which rendered him unable to perform the duties of his station, and of this attack he died September 13, 1785, in the seventieth year of his age. He preached in this town about forty-one years and was a highly respectable and useful man.

He was born in Middleborough January 25, 1715, and was the son of Rev. Peter Thacher, of that place. He graduated at Harvard College in 1737 and was ordained in this place November 30, 1748.

November 31, 1749, he was married to Bethiah, oldest daughter of Obadiah Carpenter, of this town, by Rev. Habijah Weld. He had ten children, seven sons and three daughters, and several of his descendants are living in town at the present time.

This Rev. Peter Thacher's son Thomas came to this country in 1635 with an uncle. He was then fifteen years of age. He was educated at Harvard College and subsequently became the first pastor of the Old South Church in Boston. His son Peter became the pastor of the church at Milton, this State.

Peter, the son of Peter of Milton, was the third minister of Middleborough. He married Mary Prince, of Sandwich, and had ten children, of whom Peter, the first minister of the second parish, this town, was the third child and oldest son. A younger son, Oxenbridge Thacher, was "an attorney of eminence" in Boston. Of him President John Adams said: "He was the *second* who gave the *first* impulse to the Ball of Independence, the first being James Otis."

"The descendant of such an honored ancestry, Mr. Thacher is the progenitor of a list, reaching now to the third and fourth generation of those who profess the same faith, and some of whom are called to preach the same precious gospel."

Mr. Thacher published a "Discourse on the Death of Rev. Mr. Weld," which has been reprinted. A small volume of his sermons, containing one hundred and fourteen pages, was also republished in 1798 (by his son), entitled "Select Discourses on Practical Subjects, by Peter Thacher, A.M., late Pastor of the Church at Attleborough." It was printed at Leominster, Mass., by John Prentiss & Co., under the superintendence of the son, Thomas Thacher.¹ In the preface to this publication was the following paragraph: "For this publication we are indebted to the pious generosity of the author's son, who rejoices that he can, as he hopes, contribute something to the good of his fellow-men, and, at the same time, perpetuate the memory of the best of fathers."

Some brief extracts are here given from the sermon by Rev. Mr. Thacher, which was preached May 19, 1792, to the people in the First Church, the Sabbath after the funeral of their pastor, the Rev. Mr. Weld.

The prayers of your aged, reverend, and beloved pastor are ended. He hath done his work. He hath fought a good fight. He hath finished his course. He hath kept the faith. His house, his family, this Society miss him, and lament him. Neighbor societies, far and near, having been made partakers of his gifts, graces, and fervent prayers, are mourners with you in the heavy loss you sustain. He hath been a zealous, faithful and successful laborer in Christ's vineyard, for a great many years, occasionally with others in other societies; but you my dear friends, were the happy people favored with his more stated labors. The care of the churches was much upon his heart; to live and die with you, his peculiar care and charge,—he studied for you, and for you he spent his time, his strength, his life,—teaching and exhorting publicly, and from house to house, being instant in season and out of season, reproof, rebuking and exhorting with all long suffering and doctrine.

You all know his zeal, his fervent mind, his care to [im]prove himself to his divine master as faithful to his interest, and friendly to your souls.

¹Supposed to be Rev. Thomas Thacher, of Dedham, who died October, 1812. He was a man of learning and a prominent preacher in his day. See History of Dedham, p. 118.

There must have been something wrong with the book, therefore, and although we suspect this difficulty to be connected with the translation itself, though we cannot be sure, we must have been wrong. Otherwise the book will hardly be such a masterpiece as we judged it to be, and justice to the author be done, some change was. The new introduction, both in form and content, is completely different from the former. The new introduction treated the general, confirmed the study system, expounded the system, and even added that the treatment for the subject should be independent of the study, thereby freeing the work of study and not study of the subject, and the subject of the study. The new introduction, in the Introduction's introduction, is completely different from the former.

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In the sample used, out of 10,000, 40,000, 100,000, 200,000, 300,000, and 400,000, respectively, are not meeting the Green's test. Qualifications planned to insure compliance with the 100,000 ft. test. It found there are more people than there are miles of the country, so there is less space, less time, and less. When you take it into account and make for the 100,000 ft. test, it means a decrease for 100,000.

[illegible]

In overruling his scheme Mr. Thacker recommended one stipend in particular to the consideration of the others: "One thing, my dear friends, I most earnestly request of you:—it is this, that all personal grudges and animosities."¹

Next to Mr. Webb, Mr. Thibodeau was his partner in power, there are other citizens in town, who are both well prospered and successful in certain lines especially so. He was a close, devotedly religious, of excellent moral and character and attainments; of good literary culture. He was most faithful to his charge, striving to promote the intellectual as well as the moral and religious good of his people, and — to the numerous societies in this parish, are patriotism and education, morality and piety, greatly indebted."

The Sacred Parish, which was called the Parish of those days, was constituted in 1743, at request by the not previously erected Religious worship was conducted under the direction of the parish, and meetings were held in private dwellings until the construction was so far advanced as to admit the holding of religious services in it. The church itself was not constituted till November 30, 1748, at the time of the installation of Rev. Mr. Thacker, as duly became by the records of that Assembly.

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After Mr. Thacher and before the settlement of another minister, there were several preachers here — Rev. Asahel Huntington, Mr. Laughton, Mr. Farrington, of Wrentham, Mr. Mead, etc.

The next settled minister was the Rev. Ebenezer Lazell, of Bridgewater. He was a graduate of Brown University in 1788 and was ordained November 21, 1792. The ordination sermon was preached by Rev. Zedekiah Sanger, pastor of the Second Congregational Church in Bridgewater; the charge was given by the distinguished Dr. Perez Forbes (also spelled Peres Fobes), of Raynham; the right hand of fellowship, by Rev. John Wilder, of Attleborough. The sermon and addresses were published.

Not long after his settlement, in January, 1793, Mr. Lazell married Chloe, daughter of Captain Abiathar Richardson, of this town. He continued here about four years and was dismissed January 3, 1797. He removed with his wife to the State of New York, where they both died.

His successor was the Rev. Nathan Holman. He was born in Sutton, this State, in that part which is now Millbury, May 17, 1769. He was the third son of David and Lucy Thurston Holman. He worked on his father's farm till he was twenty-one years of age, but his strong desire for a liberal education and the ministry induced him to use his best efforts to obtain a college course of study. His father, who had a large family of children, could render him but little assistance. He was obliged to rely mainly on himself for the means. By great economy and personal efforts he succeeded and graduated at Brown University in 1797 with an honorable standing "and the reputation of a good scholar." He then studied theology with Rev. Edmund Mills, pastor in his native place, and finished his theological studies in Wrentham, being with Dr. Emmons there for a short period.

After being licensed, he preached in several places and received several invitations to settle. Early in 1800 he commenced preaching here as a candidate and soon received a unanimous call to settle as pastor of this church and parish. He was ordained October 15, 1800, and installed at the same time. His former pastor, Rev. Mr. Mills, of Sutton, preached the ordination sermon, which was published.¹

Mr. Holman was a man of great firmness and perseverance. The church increased in numbers, and the society prospered during his administration. He was a man of dignity in manner and solemn in his style of preaching. Some difference between him and his people in regard to the introduction of instrumental music into the church service was the final cause of his asking a dismission. "With great reluctance on the part of the church and parish, his request was granted, and he was dismissed by an Ecclesiastical Council" on May 22, 1821. He remained in town above forty years and

¹It was printed by Nathaniel Heaton, Jr., of Wrentham. Most of the sermons and addresses published in this vicinity were printed at that press, which continued there for a century or more.

and his text, 'The Lord is a man of war.' The text and sermon were not only characteristic of the man and his theology, but characteristic of his ministry, which to use his own expression, was 'warlike.' Mr. Ferguson never shrunk from the defence of truth, never hesitated to sacrifice comfort, reputation, or means of support, in the maintenance of principle. Like other such men, he was often involved in controversy and conflict, and not infrequently made bitter enemies: though he, at the same time, rallied about him, more and warmer friends. Some may perhaps, have doubted the wisdom or necessity of all his battles, but none ever questioned the entire honesty or disinterestedness of his motives."

He was ordained here February 27, 1822, and dismissed March 25, 1835. Speaking of his ministry here a writer says: "It was of great value in the administration of wise and judicious measures, and marked the commencement of the system of support to the various benevolent enterprises of the day, and of aid to the labors of parent and pastor by a judicious and careful education of children in Sabbath Schools, and maternal associations."

After leaving Attleborough, Mr. Ferguson was settled in Whately, Mass., from March 16, 1836, till June 7, 1840. He was called Father Ferguson and was a man to whom churches looked for counsel and pastors for advice, often when pastors and churches were involved in difficulties.

"He was very often solicited to appear as advocate, before ecclesiastical courts, and many a time, as he has done this, have the coolness and shrewdness, the wit and wisdom, with which he advocated the cause, extorted the exclamation: 'What a lawyer he would have made!'" He almost always defended the weaker party, his sympathies frequently inclining to the unpopular side. "He was always ready to grasp his shield, and poise his lance, for the injured and defenceless. In such cases he sniffed the battle, like the war horse, and fought with all the chivalry, and I may add the courtesy of a Christian knight." He became extensively known as the "champion of the oppressed," though at the same time he was equally well known "as a lover and maker of peace."

He preached for about two years at Lanesborough and Whately, the place of his former settlement, and in 1842 became general agent of the American Tract Association for the States of Vermont and New Hampshire, in which position and work he was very successful. He really became the Congregational Bishop of those two States.

He died at Whately November 11, 1858. He was a man of vigorous mind and vigorous body, a large-hearted man of keen wit, "but his keenest shafts were winged with kindness." He was social and genial in manner. Realizing the defects of his own education, — having never graduated from any college, — he labored hard and made many sacrifices to give his sons college educations. Amherst College bestowed upon him the honorary degree of Master of Arts, a proof that, although he had been denied the

withdrawing all a strange woman had had by her own efforts, through the kindness of herself, and the sympathy and society of gentlemen in town.

He was married June 7, 1814, to Mary A. Hammer of Newport, R. I., by whom he had two children. She died June 30, 1818. On April 28, 1819, he married Margaret S. Fildy of Providence, R. I., by whom he had five children.

Mr. Townsend published a sermon on the death of Thomas Dagmont, Jr., which was delivered December 15, 1810, and several other discourses. He also published a "Memoir of Dr. Samuel Hopkins," the celebrated physician, for the use of Sabbath-schools.

A parsonage house was built by the church in 1817. This is the house on South Main Street now occupied by Mr. Joseph Capron. Rev. Mr. Fergin was one of the build-ers of the house, which was occupied by him as a parsonage. After he left town it was sold, first to Moses Wilbur, then to Virgil Capron, then to Thomas French, and finally to Otis Capron, from whose hands it passed into those of its present owner. It has been found and somewhat changed since it had first been built.

The second meeting-house of the "First Church" was built in 1832. It was begun by the spring of that year and completed by December following. It cost about \$0,000. It had some thirty villages at a cost of several thousand dollars additional.

The third pastor of the church was Rev. Jonathan Crane. He was born in Schenectady, N. Y., in 1814. Before he passed his boyhood, and at the age of fifteen, he entered Union College, graduating in 1837 at eighteen years of age. He entered the ministry when Jonathan and his friends visited him in 1838, when but twenty-two, he was ordained over this church. He remained here for fifteen years and was dismissed June 15, 1854. He removed to New York, where he was settled over the Congregational Church on Twentieth Street. His removal to New York was occasioned by a move to that town, and it was during the time he was here that the church building was enlarged and repaired. In 1860 Mr. Crane received a call from the Congregational Church at Middletown, N. Y., which he accepted, and where he labored for eight years. Upon his taking charge of that church the congregation numbered only about forty members, but in 1868 it was increased threefold.

In 1868 Mr. Crane went to Europe, he remained for a year or more, lecturing in several places in Michigan and Missouri. He was principally at Kalamazoo, Mich., not settled over any church, but preaching and working in various churches in that region. At St. Joseph, Mo., he was especially successful, and largely through his efforts a new church was erected there.

In 1875 Mr. Crane received a second call from his people in Middletown and returned to his charge there, remaining until his death, which occurred December 25, 1877, at the age of sixty-three years.

In an obituary notice of him are these words: "Throughout his entire life, Mr. Crane was a conscientious and devout Christian, an honorable and high-minded gentleman, the very soul of honor, and an enterprising, public spirited citizen, always favoring and aiding any enterprise looking to the advancement of the locality where he resided.

"Mr. Crane had a wonderful faculty for conducting the financial affairs of churches, and many congregations throughout the country can thank him for their present sound basis."

Mr. Crane was very successful in his ministry here, the church being prosperous and receiving large additions to its numbers while under his charge.

In 1837 he was married to Anna H., daughter of N. W. Sanford, of Brooklyn, N. Y. She survived him for nine years and died at Middletown November 28, 1886. Four children are living, namely, Annie E. (Mrs. George W. Fish), Sanford W., John, and Francis.

The next settled minister was Rev. Charles D. Lothrop. He was born in Easton, Mass., in 1828 and graduated at Amherst College in 1849 and subsequently at Andover Theological Seminary. He was installed over this church December 11, 1854, and dismissed April 29, 1857, having been pastor for about two years and a half.

From this time for about nine years there was no settled minister. Mr. Crane preached here for several years, as has been stated, and, after he left, the pulpit was supplied by a number of clergymen, hired by the week, the month, or for a longer period. The one who remained the longest period was Rev. Mr. Belden, who was here in "war times," and whose sermons and addresses during that period will be remembered by many as most patriotic, most stirring, and eloquent.

A most unfortunate dissension had arisen between the church and parish, commencing with some disagreement regarding the last settled pastor mentioned, which was increased over some questions arising when the church building was altered. This continued for quite a number of years, finally involving some legal questions. But though all differences were at length set at rest, it seemed impossible to find the man who as pastor and preacher should satisfy all the people. The right time came, however, when church and parish "agreed to agree," and a call was extended to Rev. Francis N. Peloubet. He was born in New York City, was a graduate of Williams College in 1853 and of Bangor Theological Seminary in 1857. He was installed here June 26, 1866, and dismissed at his own request October 19, 1871. He removed to Natick, Mass., where he still resides. He had charge of a church for some years, but at present has no pastorate, being largely interested in the International Sabbath-school work. He is the author of the "Peloubet

Series of Questions, Exams and Quizzes; and of "Select Notes on the International Temperance." Since leaving this town he has received the degree of Doctor of Divinity. (He is now (1884) in Andover.)

He has married the Rev. Samuel Bell. He was pastored December 18, 1879, and dismissed October 28, 1878.

The next pastor was Rev. William A. Seabrook, of Lynn, Mass., and finally, with an wife, a missionary in America. He was installed September 15, 1877. He remained five years. Finally, feeling better some of his work he did to give up ministerial work, and he accepted a dismissal, which was granted November 29, 1882. He returned to his native place, Lynn, where he died most suddenly January 10, 1884.

Rev. Walter Barton is the present pastor of the church. He was born at Grafton, Mass., May 15, 1841. He lived two colleges at Winsten Seminary, Easton, Mass., and graduated at Amherst College in 1865. He then returned to Winsten as a teacher and remained two years, then entered the Connecticut Theological Institution at East Windsor Hill and graduated three years three months later, in 1871. He preached one year each in Oxford, Conn., and Grafton, Vt., and was then called to the Congregational church in South Andover, Mass., where he has labored and installed February 17, 1874. In 1876 he received and accepted a call to the Congregational church in Suffield, Conn., where he remained until called to the First Church of Christ, in Lynn, this State, over which he was installed February 24, 1876. This charge he held for eight years, when a call was extended to him from the church in Attleborough. He commenced his labors here in March, 1884.

During his ministry in Suffield two hundred and twenty persons were added to the church. The church of his charge in Lynn is called locally "The First Church of Christ in Lynn," and is the oldest Congregational church, occupying the same ground, in the United States. During Mr. Barton's residence it celebrated the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of its formation, the pastor delivering the historical address on that occasion. While he was there one hundred and twenty-six were added to the church and a large and burdensome debt was lifted.

Since his ministry here commenced there have been about seventy persons admitted to the church. Mr. Barton has not been publicly installed over this church the worthy reasons relating to his own private case, the question of installation, reasons which affect neither the harmony between himself and his people nor the faithfulness and earnestness of his labors among them.¹ He married Maria M. Smith, of North Hallow, Mass., by whom he has two daughters, Mary L. and Minnie M. Barton (now Mrs. Thomas Foote).

¹See *Annals of the Congregational Church in Lynn, Mass.*, 1884, p. 10. The Rev. Mr. Barton, while a call had been extended to him, was called to Suffield, Conn., where he was installed. He remained for some time, but was dismissed, and returned to Lynn, where he was installed, January 15, 1884.

As has been seen, this church was constituted on the 30th of November, 1848, "by Rev. Mr. Leonard, pastor of the First Congregational Church at Plymouth, as the organ of an Ecclesiastical Council, called for that purpose, being a colony from the First Congregational Church in this town, then under the pastoral care of Rev. Habijah Weld, its honored pastor, almost fifty-five years."

This division was attended with the utmost harmony and good feeling on the part both of those who removed and those who remained. The reasons for the formation of this church may be found in a letter asking for a dismissal from the First Church and "signed by 26 males and 24 females."

Having a prospect (through the mercy of God) that the Gospel Ministry and Ordinances may be settled among us more conveniently than to attend with you, and for the more regular carrying on of the Affairs of Christ's Kingdom among us, it is our desire and design (by the help of God, and with your consent) to Embody into a Church State, etc. Following are the names of those who signed this letter:—

Joseph Capron and Wife,
Jonathan Wilmarth and Wife,
Thomas French and Wife,
Stephen Wilmarth,
Mary French,
Lehabod Perry,
John Wilkinson,
Abraham Comming and Wife,
Auron Cutting,
Nathan Wilmarth and Wife,
John Tiffany and Wife,
Henry Joslin, Jr.,
Edward Foster and Wife,
Elizabeth Lane,
Abigail Powell,
Obadiab Carpenter and Wife,
Joseph Barrus and Wife,

Daniel Perry and Wife,
Henry Joslin,
Jonas Richardson,
Bethiah Carpenter,
Thomas Wilmarth,
Robert Martin and Wife,
Rebecca Brown,
William Boleon and Wife,
David Perry and Wife,
Sarah Jackson,
John Tyler and Wife,
Joseph Bishop,
Daniel Wilmarth,
Hannah (the wife of Sam.) Jackson,
Thomas Sweet and Wife,
Liddia (the wife of Wm.) Lane,
John Sweet and Wife.

This letter was dated October, 1748, and the answer, dated November 26, 1748, was signed "Habijah Weld, Pastor: In the Name and with the Consent of the Church."

That the relations between the people of the two parishes had been pleasant is to be seen by the following words of Rev. Mr. Thacher: "The most of the time between Aug. 20, 1743, and November 30, 1748, I stood in the relation of pastor elect to the brethren and people of God in the easterly part of Attleborough, and preached to them on other Sabbaths; yet with mutual consent, we all attended the Rev. Mr. Weld's meetings, the Sabbaths on which he administered the Lord's Supper."

In the course of a few weeks after the formation of the new church its membership had increased to seventy. Fifty-nine of the number were from the First Church, and the remainder — four excepted — from East Providence, which was then a part of Rehoboth. As has been seen, fifty persons formed this church. At the public and formal organization the following

hoped they never will, for they have been hopefully converted and become regular members of the Church. From this time all vain amusements, and as far as appeared, all gambling, was discontinued. The attention of all appeared to be more or less turned to the great subject of religion." This work progressed continually for about two years. "No unusual means had been used, no new preachers had appeared among us, and no alarming providence had occurred. Had this taken place a year before it might have been thought to be caused by the sickness and the deaths with which we were then visited. We had then more cases of fever, and more deaths occasioned by fevers, than we had had for thirteen years before. Five died in one family. During the time of this sickness,¹ which was a period of about seven months, more than thirty died in this parish; eight of whom were members of this church." In fair weather and foul the meetings at this time were crowded, and frequently the meeting-house could not contain the people. Many were converted.

"The relations of those who hopefully experienced religion, were thought to be peculiarly scriptural, and truly Orthodox. For two years, we had no communion without one or more being added to the Church. Twenty-seven is the largest number added at any one time. The whole number added, since the commencement of the revival is one hundred and thirty-four; thirty-nine males, and ninety-five females."

One says: "This Church we regard as the product of the great awakening in 1740," and "the year 1743, in which this parish was formed, is memorable in the religious history of our country, especially of New England, for the great awakening under Edwards and his cotemporaries. This town shared largely in that work, and a large proportion of the original members of this Church, were among its subjects. Within the three years that preceded the formation of this parish, the First Church in this town, received 192 to her communion." The Second Church has had other times of depression, but none so serious as the one just mentioned, and since that time there seems to have been a continual—if at times small—increase, until in 1887 the membership was three hundred and eighty-six.

Many have gone from her midst to plant other churches in other places, and many of her sons have entered the ministry. The revival of 1815 enabled her "to give five of her youthful sons to the work of the gospel ministry," and thirty-three years later four of these were living.

In 1800 a church was formed in Harford, Penn., a town colonized by Attleborough people. There were seven original members and all had letters from this church. "The Pawtucket Congregational Church² was originally composed of but nine members, one male, and eight females. All these were members of the church in Attleborough, under the pastoral care of Rev. Mr. Ferguson. In April 1829, they were dismissed from that church, with Christian affection and commendation, for the purpose of being organized into a distinct branch of the Christian Church, to be located in the village of Pawtucket. That was effected by a regularly convened ecclesiastical council, on the seventeenth of the above month." A number of years ago a clergyman of New York State, a member of the Thatcher family, thus wrote:

¹ This must have been the *cold plague*, elsewhere mentioned, which occurred in 1746, but Mr. Hemenway places the date a little later.

² The church of which Rev. Mr. Briggs was the successor, is the beloved pastor.

It was frequented with its Church from which, considering its location, and the number of its constituent members, an equal sized and brighter light emanated as from the Sun in Church at Andover. Her descendants are found in almost all the Eastern, Middle, Western and some of the Southern States, active members of various Churches, where they have been either instrumental in founding, or built which they have become members.

The two hundredth anniversary of the Church's formation had been fixed by an appropriate and interesting sermon. Dissented To instead of November 30, 1848, and the same material as a matter of convenience. Delegates from several churches were present, and many letters containing pleasant remembrances of the early days, several addresses and beautiful congratulations, were received. Numbers of Herryers then arrived were present to take part in the varied services of the day, among them the Rev. Messrs. J. O. Boring, C. Budgett, Thomas Williams, J. Ferguson, and J. M. E. Bailey, and there were two of the sons of Hudson, descendants of the first minister, Thomas, affiliated at the commemorative service, and were assisted by Deacon Peter Plummer, of this town, and Deacon J. Felt, of Hartford, Conn., both grand sons of the first minister. At this time one person, Mrs. Mary Everett, was living, not only who had been baptized by Mr. Theodore Herryer, on Yeate Island, and mother, Miss Deborah Storker, who had joined the church sixty-eight years previous, in the revival of 1780.

On this occasion Rev. Mr. Curtis, the pastor of the church, delivered the memorial address. He, it is, says of the church, "Formed soon after the bloody wars with the Indians, she passed through the American Revolution, and has witnessed a change almost miraculous, on the part of the colonies, a change from a state of colonial dependence, to that of an united, free and independent republic; from a condition of great poverty and depression, to one of comparative wealth, renown and honor." These words were prophetic, for, while true of her past, they were true in a more marked degree of her future. Could the writer have looked forward a few years he would have seen the church witness a struggle darker, deadlier, bloodier than the one before and witnessing a change even more important, as would have seen her freely giving her sons to the fight as before, and this time even to the death; and he would have seen the country rising from a state lower and more degrading than that of colonial dependence — a state of slavery — to one of true freedom and independence, and from a "condition of comparative wealth, renown and honor" to one of great wealth and ever increasing importance and commercial prosperity and to a position highly honorable, yea, even foremost among the nations of the earth.

APPENDIX.

Unfortunately, all church records in the formation of the Society and connected with this church have been lost, and memory and tradition can give

now but a few scattered facts or recollections. The school was formed in 1825 during the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Ferguson, who was no doubt largely instrumental in starting this good work. It is known that the first sessions were held in the Franklin schoolhouse, then occupying the lot where the church now stands. They could not have continued there long, for during that year probably the schoolhouse was moved. The vestry was not finished until some time after the upper part of the new meetinghouse was completed, and therefore the school may have occupied the main audience room. The last Deacon Thacher was probably the first superintendent; and among the earlier ones were Mr. Myers, Jesse Carpenter, Nathaniel W. Sanford, Deacon Atherton Wales, Emmons Walton, Edward Wilmarth, and Deacon Harvey Claffin. Among the later ones may be mentioned Zenas B. Carpenter and his two sons, L. Z. and A. B. Carpenter, B. P. King, A. Vinton Cobb, Charles E. Bliss; and others have held the position.¹

The following report, which is given in full, furnishes much interesting information regarding the school a few years after its formation and is especially valuable because it is the only known early record in existence.

Our school is situated in Attle. Co. of Bristol. Our school has been in successful operation for fifteen years. During that period an increasing interest in its prosperity has been manifested. It is regarded as one of the most promising means of usefulness in operation among us. The cause of its increase during the 15 years is to be attributed to the increasing evidence of its utility rather than to any special effort to give it popularity. Our course has been silent, uniform, persevering, and we indulge the hope that its prosperity will be lasting. We have about 100 between 18 and 75 who are in Newcomb's book of Romans, about 60 in his 2d vol. and a few in his first. A number in the other Catechism. We have a class of old ladies who formerly sat as spectators. An elderly Brother by their request was invited to become their teacher. He accepted the invitation & commenced I think with four; soon the class so much increased that it became necessary to divide, and another brother was invited to be their teacher. These scholars have ever been studious & constant attendants at the school. It was mentioned by these old ladies that our grey-headed fathers should not be passed by. Accordingly, one of our number went into the streets, and soon gathered a class which has so much increased that it has been divided and sub-divided. Our pastor always attends the opening of the school when at home, and takes a lively interest in it. His wife too lends the helping hand and has the charge of a class of young ladies. In short they have ever been the pillar and main spring from the commencement.² Our teachers are for the most part punctual & interested. Our lesson for the first Sabbath in each month is given out from the Assembly's Catechism. At the close of the school questions are asked from this lesson, which appear to interest all. We have had a s. s. celebration, 4th of July, the two past years, and with a little effort it has been made very interesting. — our meeting-house filled to overflowing. Our school was visited the fore part of the year with the out-pouring of God's Holy Spirit, and a number

The school is now, 1891, under the most efficient guidance of Mr. Martin L. Chapman. On February 15 there was the largest attendance ever known, there being then three hundred and eighty-six persons present.

¹ It is apparent that Mr. Thacher here refers to Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson, since they were no doubt "the main spring" so long as they remained here, but Mr. Ferguson left town in 1837, and Mr. Jonathan Crane had been pastor of the church about three years and a half at the time this report was written.

of passing the program from morning to noon, and the same thing during the afternoon, and the same thing during the evening. All of this is important, and it is important to the church.

It

It is a very important question, and it is a very important question. It is a very important question, and it is a very important question. It is a very important question, and it is a very important question.

Periods of depression have very probably visited the school since its organization and lack of interest has at times manifested, but for a general line, past fifteen months have progressed and are at present in a most flourishing and encouraging condition. The reports show that on January 1, 1887, there were 47 classes with 11 officers and assistants. The total number in the full of both seasons and scholars was 106, of scholars 46; the largest attendance during the year previous 130, the average 100, and the average scholars, with a gain in the average attendance of 25 above the year preceding. The home department numbered 100. The number of conferences during the year was 10, with the collections amounted to \$268.00. This is the largest Protestant Sabbath-school in Iowa and the largest but one of the conference to which the church belongs.

We have stated that the first meeting-house in the record present was constructed in 1746. The land upon which it was built was given to the people, and subsequently they purchased additional lots. The building was thirty-five by forty-five feet, called a square building, and stood on what is now the common, near where one of the large elm trees stands by the path which formerly crossed to the residence of the late David E. Holman. It faced the south and had three doors, one in the south front, one on the east, and the other on the west side. Through the central, south door the minister of the olden time always entered and with great dignity, uncovering his head as did his parishioners while he passed them. It was the custom for many to wait outside to pay this mark of respect to the minister, and for those who had entered the building to rise as he entered and remain standing until he had taken his seat. The roof was of the gambrel kind, and was covered with a gambrel roof, and often these buildings were surmounted with a belfry, wherein hung the bell, but there is nothing to indicate the presence of such an appendage here. In lieu of a bell in those days, "a drum was beat" or a conch shell blown to summon the "clockless people" to service, and sometimes a flag was raised for the benefit of those who dwelt beyond the sound of drum or shell. What special custom was followed here we do not know, but we can be sure that some effective method was used that the people were well attended regularly, and that they were never late.

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The building of this meetinghouse must have been a great event, and it is said "quite a crowd gathered to see the ground broken, and every male citizen who could possibly leave his own affairs, attended the raising." The structure must have been plain and primitive in the extreme, as we now judge, though it compared favorably with the majority of the dwellings of the people. It was not finished inside for several years, but eventually it had a "tier of galleries" on three sides, a high pulpit with huge sounding-board no doubt occupying the other. It was nearly forty years before pews were introduced here, and until that time probably the rudest of pine benches were the only sitting accommodation afforded. In some of the churches a hundred and fifty years ago it is said that the seats were so arranged that they were raised when the people, as was then the custom, rose for the prayers; and, the amen being pronounced, they fell with a loud slam when the people prepared to reseat themselves. This seems hardly compatible with the dignity and propriety we have been taught to believe the early fathers maintained, and in these "unregenerate days" such a ceremony would not be considered "conducive to the true spirit of worship." Whatever the style of seats first used here, in 1780 the people were ready for a change, for it is recorded that in that year pews were introduced into the meetinghouse. "The room upon the floor was divided and sold to pay the expense incurred for alterations and repairs, amounting, according to record, to £23,000; but as if to save their credit from a charge of wasteful extravagance, it is added that 'one silver dollar¹ shall be received for seventy-two dollars of the old emission.'"

Another custom which early prevailed was the one maintained by the sect called Friends: the men occupied one portion of the church and the women another, families being thus divided; and this fashion obtained in some places up to quite a recent date. That it was followed here seems to be proven by a record made in 1793, in which the "wimen's body of Seats below" is mentioned. It is said that in many of the colonial churches there were two ministers. These occupied the seats at the back of the pulpit, while the ruling elders had their raised seats in front of the pulpit, and the deacons also, only a step lower down. It is also said that social rank was sometimes a powerful element in the religion even of our forefathers, and that seats in church were arranged by its standard. Sometimes the places were assigned by the committee in charge according to the position of the men on the tax list and sometimes by grading their liberality toward the expenses of the church. The tithing-man was an important factor in the old-time Sabbath

¹These must of course have been Spanish dollars, then in circulation in this country and taken fifteen years later as the standard of the first American dollar coined. It is difficult to even approximate the actual cost of these repairs. Twenty years previous it took over £2,000 of Rhode Island paper money to make £100 sterling, and at this time much more would probably have been required, for in 1780-81 the paper money issued by Congress had become almost valueless. The true value of the sum which sounds so large would therefore be very small.

They supped, and he was kindly employed in keeping watchfires on horse back, watching the sleepy fathers and mothers to bed, and even in watching game dogs, who frequently followed their masters to the sanctuary. At first a leader lined out the psalms, the singing, at which, most have been, strenuous, doing and screaming, to a high degree, some "two lengths" were often required in the prolongation of one note, and later came the choir of "evangelical youths and maidens," who, according to a French gentleman, — a traveler in this country, — "actually sang three parts, and the women sustain the fourth." For many years ministrations had no heating apparatus, the women alone using flannel dresses, while the men sat in their "great coats," and sometimes their hats. The fate of the children is not deemed worthy of mention to the writers; they must have suffered, but of course in silence.

Another early fashion was to build "Sabbath Day houses," to be occupied by the families of the various between services and as places in which to eat their lunches. John Woodcock had one in Rehoboth and another in Wrentham; and others may have had theirs in this town though no mention of them appears to have been made. This fashion of going to church for the day and of bringing lunches continued here until the second preaching service was given up a few years ago. In one of the small vestry rooms, for many a Sunday, a cup of tea was prepared to cheer and sustain some of the old ladies of the congregation, and over this fragrant beverage conversation never lagged, nor was it wholly confined to the merits of the sermon just heard in the room above.

The old meetinghouse had its horse block "at the corner of the house" and hence its how of hoofs. Up to about 1820 it may be conjectured to have been but that of the voice had been heard within its walls, for at that time it is recorded that the introduction of wind instruments into the services caused trouble between Mr. Holman and his people, which finally resulted in his dismissal. It ought, however, in justice to be said that this was not the only cause of dissension; money matters entered into the dispute, for it appears that the minister's salary was not paid as promptly as it should have been. The first building was occupied for a little more than eighty years and then a new one was built a few rods west of it.

In the year 1807 a number of the members of this parish "showing that the said Precinct is possessed in their own right of a small lot of land, called the Meeting-house lot, in said Precinct with a Meeting house thereon; And also of Eleven hundred and forty Dollars, as a fund for supporting a minister of the Gospel in said Precinct," petitioned the Legislature to incorporate them into a society. It was therefore enacted that Noah Blandin, Jacob Bolcom, Job Duggett, Thomas French, Caleb Richardson, Jr., Nathaniel Robinson, Henry Sweet, and Peter Thoburn, — with others who had or should own them, — and their successors, should be incorporated into a body politic — with perpetual possession, — and called, "The Congregational Society in the

Second Precinct in Attleboro'." These gentlemen and their successors were appointed trustees with the usual powers. It was provided that the fund could be put at interest "until the principal and interest, with what may be added thereto, shall amount to Four Thousand Dollars," and then the interest or annual income of the same was to be devoted to the paying of whatever Congregational minister might be regularly ordained and settled in the second precinct. In the event of any vacancy of a regularly ordained and settled minister, interest could be added to principal, and if at any time the interest of said fund should be more than sufficient to pay the minister, the surplus could be applied to "rebuilding, enlarging or repairing their meeting house, or any other purpose of public utility as the said society shall direct." Compensation was allowed, if desired, to the officers of this society, but no part of the principal of their fund was ever to be "expended for any purpose whatsoever," etc. This act of incorporation was passed in February, 1807.

The first meeting of the society was held March 30, 1807, when Peter Thacher, Jr., was chosen clerk, Eliphalet Wilmarth, Jr., treasurer, and Joab Daggett, Thomas French, Peter Thacher, Jacob Bolcom, Nathaniel Robinson, Noah Blandin, and Ezra Brown, trustees. The necessary by-laws were duly framed and accepted, and signed by Joab Daggett, "Chareman" of the board of trustees. One of these by-laws is explicit: "It shall be the duty of the Trustees to notify at the meeting house door the Sabbath before they meet for renewing the securities, and if any Person neglects to renew his security at the time the Trustees meet for that purpose must expect to be called upon by an Attorney." Members of this society are persons qualified to vote in parish meetings, being supporters of the ecclesiastical society then in the second precinct.

Apparently the first mention of a new church occurred at a parish meeting held in March, 1819, and a committee of seven gentlemen was chosen to take into consideration the question of repairing the old church or building a new one. Nothing further seems to have been done for some time, but talk of a new building no doubt continued, and soon the propriety of placing it upon another lot must have entered into the discussions. The "meeting-house lot" contained about two acres, and while that was sufficiently large it was decided for very good reasons to obtain more land. About 1820 attempts were made by members of another faith to gain a foothold in the East precinct. Parish limits being then territorial, freemen, no matter what their peculiar forms of belief, would have rights in parish property. Obviously serious complications would be liable to arise under such circumstances, whether the sect seeking establishment should be one with which the existing one could coalesce or not, and some arrangement had to be made to meet this threatened exigency. The "Incorporated Cong. Society" presented itself as the solution of this problem, and accordingly on February 4, 1824, the parish voted to grant a petition made and transfer the meetinghouse and lot

to that society. Present suggestions seemed to be met in this transfer, but it might not reach the possible end in the future, and it was deemed best to get nothing but the same form of purchase, and steps in that direction were at once taken by the society. In May, 1824, the trustees of the Franklin Society bought land for the society for the type of some baptised and society. This lot contained one fourth of an acre and had been given to them, as will be seen elsewhere, by Dr. Abner Lyman for the purposes of conversion. In order apparently to make this transfer good six lots of Dr. Lyman in October, 1824, contributed all their "right, title and interest" to this land. In January, 1834, there was a purchase of about seventy-five rods of land made of Benjamin Bolkeom; this lay north of a part of the schoolhouse lot — and in September, 1827, a further purchase of about forty rods was made of Gideon Sweet, and this also lay north of the schoolhouse lot. These transactions were in the name of Peter Thacher, who was trustee of the society.

In 1833 the new meetinghouse was built under the following conditions. February 24, 1834, a number of the prominent men of the place formed themselves into a company for the purpose of erecting a meetinghouse on or near the meetinghouse lot in the second precinct for the use of the Incorporated Congregational Society. The expense of building was to be divided into shares, no member got less than one hundred, and the price of one share was not to exceed fifty dollars. When the shares should all be taken, the company agreed to appoint a committee, who were to levy assessments on these as necessary for the cost of construction, and the members of the company were to be reimbursed for the money thus advanced by the sale of the pews in the completed house. All the terms of the agreement appear to have been complied with, and all the shares taken. There were thirty-six shareholders; James Bolkeom, Peter Thacher, and Jesse Carpenter each took ten shares; Jonathan Bliss, six; Gideon Sweet and Ebenezer Tyler, five each; five gentlemen subscribed for four shares each, nine for two, and sixteen for one each. *Members of the company, Elders Lyman, Jonathan Bliss, Nathaniel Coffin, and Peter Thacher were named a committee to draw plans and submit them to the company.* On April 6 this committee were empowered "to purchase a lot of Col. Bolkeom, and also the School house lot to add the meeting house on," and about a week later they were instructed "to take the North Baptist meeting house at the North end of Providence for a *sample* with some variations." In the autumn this original committee were directed to make all the necessary arrangements for dedicating the new church, and that meeting was then *dissolved*, as during the former proceedings had frequently been the case, "to meet at a future time." In January, 1836, the company decided to finish the vestry at once, and a little later they voted to pay Trask Casson \$100 to complete that work, intended to be four. Peter Thacher was named to provide these materials, while Amos Stedden was

instructed "to see that the work was done in a workmanlike manner." Accounts show that the building cost, as before stated, about \$6,000.

The society book furnishes a little further information. March 8, 1824, they "voted to Build a new meeting house provided the Subscription be *filled* to \$5,000 in agreement with a Subscription paper for that purpose." At the same time it was "voted to dispose of the Old Meeting house," and further, "to give up the pews in the Old meeting house free of any remuneration provided there was a new meeting house built there being 20 in favour and 4 against (it being understood that all must agree to it or not any.)" A committee was chosen to make some arrangement with the pewholders if possible, but this could not be done, and appraisers were chosen. These were Benjamin Shephard, of Wrentham, General Shephard Leach, of Easton, and Melitiah Everet, of Foxborough. November 1, 1825, a committee of five, later increased to nine, was chosen to dispose of the old building "at their discretion by taking it off of the lot in two months from date." It required nearly twice as many men to dispose of the old church as to build the new one, but they managed to complete the laborious task after some fashion. The building was taken down, for it is known that some of its timbers were used elsewhere, but not in what building.¹

Among all the organizations connected with this church it must have been difficult at times to define duties. In the agreement of the building company, however, a good bell was included, the first placed in the village, no doubt, and the parish had to pay for ringing it. Very soon there was trouble with the bounds around the new meetinghouse, and in 1830 it is recorded that some *villin* brok a window. "Praise services" may not be of as recent origin as most of us suppose, for in 1836 the parish "voted to use the Meeting house on Sunday evening for a sacred music"—concert probably the clerk intended to write. It was in this year that the parsonage was sold, and the society voted to put the proceeds into bank stock. In May, 1838, it was voted by the company to instruct Peter Thacher, "Trustee of the Proprietors of their Meeting House and Lot," to give a deed of that estate to the society, he having held it for some years previous in trust for them. This was accordingly done on the thirty-first of that month, "upon the express condition that

The late Jonathan Bliss, who with his brother George owned the Farmer's mill property, and who built and occupied the large house on the west side of the road, opposite the residence of Mr. Homer M. Dazett, purchased the entire building as it stood. There was some decided opposition to the erection of a new meetinghouse, and threats were openly made to Mr. Bliss to the effect that if he attempted to take down the old one it would be burned, as the opposition preferred burning and total destruction to tearing down and further use. He paid no attention to these threats, however, but had a gang of men in readiness and as soon as the bargain was made set them to work and the task of demolition was accomplished without molestation. What became of the lumber is not known, but Mr. Jonathan Bliss, son of the above and now resident here, is the authority for these statements, and he says he had the old square pews to use for playhouses. These had turned posts all around their tops for ornament. He has no recollection of ever hearing his father say what price was paid for this lumber, a fact which would be of much interest at the present day if it could be ascertained.

the said society being seated on *the* and *the* the said lot and house as they shall think proper, providing nevertheless the said lot and house shall be suitably fenced and enclosed for the worship of God by the said Congregational Society, and (c) shall accommodate and accommodate," etc.

Nowhere were the dimensions of the new meeting-house, but they were the same as at present with the exception of the height. It was finished white and so continued for many years and, after the Methodist Church was built, and after disorganized as "the white temple." There was at first but one gallery, that at the south end for the use of the singers, and the pulpit was in front of and on a level with it. The pews were painted white and ran parallel in front, between what are the doors, and, the stairs being 40000, it was a source of great inconvenience to small children how the minister reached his seat. The pews then faced the altar, but in 1858 this order was reversed, the pulpit placed at the north end, and the side galleries put in. Not long before the old white pulpit was taken away, the then youthful minister of the parish, Mr. Crane, stood up in front of it to be married; after this it lay for a long time in the Bolkeon yard, now Dr. Bronson's, and finally disappeared. The new pulpit was of mahogany, ponderous and high, and the sofa and chairs were of the same material and covered with black hand-cloth. The parsonage money seems to have been used to make these repairs, arrangements being made to replace it. In 1826 the company voted to heat the church "with a furnace or like the new meeting-house in Taunton." This proposed method was certainly not then adopted, for two stoves at the south end with long pipes extending under the galleries were for many years the heating apparatus used. The music about this time, forty or fifty years ago, consisted simply of six voices. For years Daniel Claffin played the double-bass-viol, Deacon Harvey Claffin and William Carpenter the single bass-viol, Eben Smith the violin, E. Gardener Tripp the trombone, and, for a time at least, a Mr. Hunt, of Taunton, the flute. The habit of facing the singers had become so "firmly fixed" that the people continued to indulge in it even in each service at least for more than seventy-five years, and it was only a few years ago that this awkward turning about was altogether abandoned. In 1841 an organ, purchased by subscription and presented to the society, and the first organist, Mr. L. E. Fuller, commenced playing on the first Sunday in April of that year. A record of his full salary was not found, but the previous year the chorister was paid \$25. Mr. William D. Wilmarth became organist in 1854 and continued for a great many years.

In 1853 the parish began to talk of enlarging the meetinghouse, and in the summer of 1854 the master carpenter, Zechariah B. Carpenter, a farmer, in consequence of having and so the said lot and house as they shall think proper, providing nevertheless the said lot and house shall be suitably fenced and enclosed for the worship of God by the said Congregational Society, and (c) shall accommodate and accommodate," etc.

to attend to repairs, etc., and the report they duly made was accepted and ordered to be sent to the church. This is all the parish records furnish relating to this matter, the society having it in charge chiefly. In December, 1857, they chose these three gentlemen with Sumner E. Capron and Godfrey Wheelock their committee for the same purpose. Alterations were accordingly made. The meetinghouse was cut in two, and a piece set in, long enough to contain seven pews, twenty-eight being thus added to the former number. One or two pews were taken away just before the pulpit, which was changed for a lower and smaller one, with proper attendant furnishings, the old ones being sent to the vestry, where some of the chairs are still in use. The gallery fronts were lowered, and pew doors removed. Furnaces were put in, and it was at this time perhaps that, as has been said, "more thunder was added to the organ." Various other changes were made, and marked improvements were made in the vestry.

October 30, 1858, the building committee made their final report to the society, and a few extracts from it are here given: "In the judgment of your Committee the House is now worth Twelve Thousand Dollars, (\$12,000), that a new one finished and furnished as this is could not be built short of that sum. We have now a House of worship of which we need not be ashamed either in its exterior form or interior finish," which "has been much beautified by Fresco Painting and other ornaments. It is not like the old one offensive to good taste. The Committee think that the greatest improvement, one that will be the most often appreciated, is that of the vestry. It is now one of the most convenient in its form and arrangements, pleasant and neat in its appearance, and is not exceeded if equaled by any Room of the kind known to us. Although it has cost something to make the alterations it is now worth it. It presents a most striking contrast with the old one." Not a word of this description, excepting the last sentence, is true of the vestry to-day. These repairs cost \$4,200. Citizens of the place subscribed \$500 to purchase and put up the clock: the ladies had a fair which netted \$300, which with presents, etc., they increased to over \$500. The society fund, which had been increased to \$4,000 or more, was used to pay for the new pews put into the building, and these, still owned by the society, represent that sum. The work was superintended by Mr. Jesse R. Carpenter with his usual energy and finished promptly. On its completion appropriate dedicatory services were held.

As stated, the parish in 1824 transferred their interest in the meetinghouse and lot to the society. This was not a legal sale, as was afterwards ascertained, but was confirmed by the Legislature, which gave further authority to the society to dispose of the building. The society has no legal power to raise funds for the care, repairing, or building of a meetinghouse, as the parish has, and therefore much embarrassment has at times attended its proceedings in connection with that organization, and many complications have arisen.

It would seem a pity that the land upon which a house for religious worship has stood for so many years, and which was given or obtained for that special purpose and no other, should be diverted, even if it could be, to business purposes. Ought religious bodies or those immediately associated with them to consent to such proceedings or ratify such transactions? There is diversity of opinion as to the power of the parish to give a good title to this land, some claiming that the meetinghouse stands on the schoolhouse lot, a title to which might be very doubtful, and others that it is on the Bolcom land, regularly bought by the parish. These are questions which need not be discussed here, but changes of some kind seem to be inevitable either in a new building elsewhere or a renewed one here, the vestry having become entirely inadequate to the demands made upon it, especially by the Sabbath-school. The latter would be the plan the adoption of which would be urged by the author—retain the ancient site, preserve the ancient landmarks because of the hallowed associations which are clustered about this spot, with its old, spired meetinghouse and its little “city of the dead.” And what object is more pleasing and restful to the eye in any scene—whether it be in the crowded city or the busy town, on the wooded hilltop, in the quiet valley, or by the shining waters of the lake—than a pretty church in a setting of vivid green, dotted with memorials to its own peculiar dead, peacefully “making a Sunday where it stands”? Then let the “white church” still stand in its wonted place, still hold within its honored walls the memories that passing years have gathered there. Those years have witnessed rude shatterings of some of its associations, but many abide here still which would depart forever should the church move elsewhere, and then the coming years would promise only change after change. The quiet of the Sabbath is indeed often broken by the shriek of engines and the rush of trains, and the people would fain have a more retired spot in which to worship God; but where in our busy village is such a spot to be found, a spot into whose precincts the rattle and clatter of activity will not dare to penetrate? Here as elsewhere, however, the majority must decide, and perhaps the old church home will soon be abandoned. Should this be, then let human ingenuity exert itself to the utmost to devise new laws, if necessary, to prevent further disturbance of the community’s dead. Let the occupants of this “God’s acre” slumber quietly on; no sound reaches their ears, no noise disturbs them; they heed

selling its property to the church for a small sum in order to make a good title, and the latter is now its own governing body. The incorporation charter was granted March 1, 1893, to "The Second Congregational Church of Attleborough, Mass." Originally, there were probably very few if any members of this parish who were not also members of the church, and the interests of the two bodies were then therefore one. With the increase of population this would naturally be changed, many becoming members of the parish not being members of the church, under which circumstances the duties of the two bodies must at times be entirely distinct. This was the fundamental reason for the change. The parish still exists, as it holds the Richardson School Fund, the duties of which trust are about all it now has to perform.



1. St. John's Church (Roman Catholic), built in 1883; 2. Grace Church (Episcopal), built in 1878; 3. First Universalist Church, built in 1881; 4. North Baptist Church, built in 1875; 5. First Congregational Church, built in 1828.

CHAPTER X.

CHURCHES AND THE MINISTRY, CONTINUED. — NORTH BAPTIST CHURCH.

THIS church was constituted in 1769. Its existence, however, may be traced back to a date more than twenty years prior to that — 1747. It was at first and for many years afterwards of the Congregational order, though differing from that denomination in some respects. “There being,” say the church records, “a considerable number of Christians in this place that are dissatisfied with the Constitution of the standing order of Churches in the land: they, with some others formed themselves into a society to worship God according to His word and spirit.” This was called “a church of New Lights, or Separatists,” and it consisted of seventy-four members. January 20, 1747, the church proceeded “to set apart their esteemed Brother Nathaniel Shepard by solemn ordination as their Pastor,” and “the day after, Joshuay Everett and William Carpenter were ordained Deacons.”

Mr. Shepard was born in Norton, February 13, 1713. He was the son of Isaac Shepard and a descendant of Jacob Shepard, of Wrentham (now Foxborough), who was a son of Thomas Shepard, of Milton. Till he came of age he lived in different towns in the vicinity of Boston, and tradition says he was a tailor. He married Mindwell, daughter of John Woodward, of Newton. After his marriage he settled in the town of Brookline and became a member of a church there. It was some time later that he became a preacher. He continued pastor of this church until his death, which occurred April 14, 1752. He had the reputation of being an earnest preacher. The house in which he died is said to have stood a few rods from the one occupied by Ellis Blackinton. It is also said “a very large assembly attended his funeral.” A Mr. Carpenter, of Norton, preached the sermon, and “his body was interred in the burying place nearly opposite to Col. Hatch’s tavern.” His children were Jonathan, Nathaniel, Ebenezer, Mindwell, Isaac, Elizabeth, Jacob, Hannah, and Samuel.

This church was from the commencement small and feeble. It “continued public worship and brotherly discipline,” but its “number became smaller and smaller from year to year.” For many years it was difficult to determine precisely the real standing of the church members and their doctrinal points in regard to other denominations. For a long period they seemed to be neither exactly Congregationalists nor Baptists. It struggled on “through many trials and discouragements” till the year 1769, when by vote it changed its constitution “from a Congregational to a Baptist Church in what is called

aged congregation." At this time some were yet under the influence of those who opposed its meeting, and others formed fellowship with one church in Bellingham, from whom they received aid.¹ There are now four Deacons, Messrs. Ebenezer Gould, Joseph Gould, John Sprague, Josiah Everett, and John Cherry. June 2, 1770, they applied to the Bellingham church.

Two years previous to this time in April 1768, Mr. Abraham Bliss had moved from Sudbury to Attleborough to take charge of this church. He was not settled, but preached here two years, till his death, September 10, 1770. During the previous year, 1768, the church had met together several times to consult upon the possibility of conducting upon the union communion plan, which they found to be impossible, and the result was the formation of the 40th church of ten members "on strict Baptist principles." Having thus acted directly upon the Baptist platform they soon united with the Worcester Association, within whose limits the church was situated. This was in 1771 and the church remained in that association until 1837, when it joined the Taunton Association.

From the time of the formation there was a gradual increase in numbers. Once in three months Mr. Noah Allen preached for the people, and occasionally they were visited by other clergymen, until Elder Job Seamans came among them.² He was of Sackville, Cumberland county, and President of New South,³ now in the Province of New Brunswick (1834). Mr. Seamans was born in Swansea, Mass., May 11, 1748. He married at Sackville,⁴ New Brunswick, with Elder Mason's company, who emigrated to that place from Swansea in 1763. He there became a preacher. After preaching for a time to the satisfaction of the church there, he came to New England to visit friends. He remained for a time in Providence with President Manning, of Brown University, who introduced him to the Attleborough church. He was invited to become its pastor, accepted the invitation, and in October, 1772, removed here with his family. A place was found for him with "widow the Chloe Blackinton." She had a farm and offered to let him reside upon it.

Elder Seamans was ordained December 15, 1773. The same day presented to him by Elder President Manning gave the charge, and the right hand of fellowship was given by Elder Charles Thompson. In 1779, he in conjunction with Elder Biel Ledoyt, of Woodstock, Conn., was appointed by the Worcester Association, minister in Attleborough parish of New Hampshire. In the course of the same year he returned to Attleborough, where he remained till 1788. He labored here very faithfully for about fourteen years. On May 10, 1787, he requested a dismission from the church in this place, which was reluctantly granted November 25 of the same year. In the

¹ The Bellingham church was organized in 1768, and was the first Baptist church in New Hampshire.

first letter which he sent to the church regarding his dismissal occur these words: "Beloved brethren, I came to you in peace, and have served you longer than Jacob served for his beloved Rachel and Leah. And, although I have served with many imperfections, yet I can say with truth, that I have strove to live in peace, and now I desire to depart in peace." When he came to the church there were twenty-three members: when he left there were seventy-four. He removed to New London, N. H., where he had preached during his mission, and was settled over the new Baptist church in that place, which he established at the same time. Here he continued till his death in 1830 at the advanced age of eighty-two. Mr. Seamans married Sarah Easterbrooks, by whom he had, while in Attleborough, eight children, four sons and four daughters.

Rev. William Williams,¹ who was a member of this church, and the respected pastor of the Baptist society in Wrentham, occasionally supplied the pulpit during the vacancies which occurred after the removal of Mr. Seamans.

November, 1789, Elder Abner Lewis came from New Bedford to Attleborough and continued the pastor of the church until September, 1795, when he returned to New Bedford. After this Mr. Laben Thurber preached here till April, 1797, when he relinquished the office of a religious teacher and removed to the east part of the town.

Elder James Read, who was then resident in Assonet village, Freetown, commenced preaching here in April, 1800, and was so well approved that in December of the same year the church gave him an invitation to settle, which was accepted. In February following he removed to Attleborough, and was installed August 18, 1801. The sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Gano, of Providence, the charge given by Elder Pitman, of Rehoboth, and the right hand of fellowship by Elder Baker. At the same time Edward Clark was ordained as an evangelist. Mr. Clark died April 22, 1811, in the seventy-second year of his age.

Elder Read was descended from John Read, one of the first settlers of Newport, R. I. His son John married and settled in Freetown in 1667. His children were Joseph, John, and Hannah. Elder Read was the son of Joseph Read and Mary, his wife, but the date and place of his birth are not known to the author. He was ordained in Tiverton, R. I., October 30, 1799,

He was a celebrated instructor of youth. He commenced a school for fitting young men for college near his meetinghouse in Wrentham, which he continued for many years with distinguished success. He educated upwards of one hundred students. *Benjamin's History of the Baptists*, the most of whom graduated at Brown University. Many of them became distinguished men. In the number of his pupils were Dr. Maxcy, Hon. David R. Williams, formerly governor of South Carolina, and Hon. Tristram Burgess, the late eloquent member of Congress from Rhode Island, a celebrated lawyer in Providence and professor of oratory in Brown University.

Mr. Williams himself was educated at Eaton's Academy, New Jersey, and graduated at Brown University in 1769, which was the first class in that institution. He married for his second wife Miss Titus, the daughter of Deacon J. Titus, of Attleborough.

though he always was present in 1844 years. He continued in this ministry in this town from the time of his installation until his death, which occurred October 27, 1876, in the forty-ninth year of his age.

He was a worthy and useful minister and universally respected as a man. The records of the church bear ample testimony to the estimation in which he was held by his people. "In the prime of his life and in the midst of his pastorate, his heart was with all things pertaining to the good pleasure of God, and he labored hard from the earliest dawn of the morning to the latest hour of the day, leaving his wife and four children to sustain the loss of a good husband and three children to sustain the loss of a vital parent, and the church and society to mourn the loss of a faithful minister of the gospel, and one whose faithful warnings will long be had in remembrance by many of them." His funeral services were presided in by Dr. Green, and he was buried in the cemetery at Plainville.

Elmer Reed did not confine himself to duties in his own parish. In fact, he was made frequent visiting pastor into those places. It is said of him: "He found good success in promoting the gospel in the frontier places of Saratoga, Montgomery, Rensselaer, and Chautauque." He often went into western New York and always and everywhere found a "welcome in these then sparsely settled regions." One says: "It is believed that he thus laid the foundation of several churches. An absence of whole weeks on these missionary tours was always at his own expense. He returned home from them burdened with a desire he felt able to preach in some village beyond. His school-room had people enough beyond him to give his whole time to the church. There being no parsonage he rented a house and piece of land near the church, and by the produce of five days labor of the week, added to the support of his family." A member of his family says that his salary was three hundred dollars per annum, a sum that did not suffice to support his family even with the most rigid economy and industry. He had a small fund — \$2,000 — which he had saved before he entered the ministry, and from this fund he drew from year to year as necessity required.

He was a kindhearted and self-denying, pure, true, earnest, vigorous preacher of the gospel, and his preaching eminently scriptural." One says: "Like Dryden's faithful pastor he

Commended his flock to Christ's sacred blood,
And would not the crown of glory wear,
But on eternal Mercy, loved to dwell."

It was held in high esteem by his spiritual successors, and when God called him from his earthly labors to come up higher," one of them writes: "We and the churches feel and mourn his loss."

He delivered a "Century Sermon" on the one hundredth anniversary of John Shepard's ("the ancient") birth in Foxborough. This was about ten years before his death, and the occasion was made one of "great attraction."

Mr. Read married Rebecca Burton, of Warren, R. I., who died in 1833, aged sixty-six years. They had three children: Andrew B., who died in 1877; Samuel Stillman (the third son), who died about 1831 at the early age of twenty-seven; and James H. (the second son), born August 30, 1801, and who is still living at the period of this writing, having reached the very advanced age of eighty-five.¹

April 28, 1815, Rev. Stephen S. Nelson, who was then preaching in Bellingham, was invited "to take the Pastoral care of this church." He was dismissed in May, 1820. For one year the pulpit was supplied by Rev. Jonathan Wilson, and the succeeding year by several ministers.

Rev. Silas Hall, of Raynham, came here in 1823 and remained four years. He was subsequently pastor of the Baptist church in Taunton. He was a veteran preacher in this part of the State, having supplied numerous churches in various towns. He continued his services as a preacher till near the time of his death, which occurred at Raynham.

Rev. William Phillips succeeded Mr. Hall as pastor. He was ordained here in February, 1827. The sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Benedict, of Pawtucket. Mr. Phillips graduated at Brown University in the class of 1826 and attended the Theological Seminary at Newton. He remained over the church here but two years, having received a call from the Third Baptist church in Providence to become their pastor, which he accepted. He continued there until 1842, when he resigned his charge and ever after declined settling as pastor over any society, though he continued to preach in neighboring churches till his death.

Mr. Phillips was born in Provincetown, Mass., August 24, 1801. He died May 30, 1879, at his residence near Providence, aged seventy-seven years, nine months, and six days. In 1827 he married Susan, daughter of Jeremiah Cole, of Providence. His second wife was Roxalana, daughter of Benjamin Edwards, of Charlestown, Mass. At his death he left a widow, five sons, and one daughter. In 1830 he was elected a trustee of Brown University and held the office till his death. In an obituary notice of him, published soon after his decease, the writer thus speaks of his character as a preacher: "In the pulpit Mr. Phillips gained attention by his rich and per-

¹ Mr. Read has been for many years a resident of Providence, R. I. He was a warm friend of the author for a long period. He retains his faculties to a remarkable degree, has the vigor of late life, and his penmanship might be the envy of many a youth, as a beautifully written letter to the Editor, containing facts of much interest, bears ample testimony. Deacon Read died June 5, 1893, aged ninety-one years, nine months and six days. "He enjoyed pretty good health up to about a year before his death, and retained his mental faculties quite clear until within a few months when his mind seemed to fall some."]

simple voice, and by his agreeable delivery. And for seventy years had adhered to their method, and full of thoughtful instruction, secured from a study of the word, and a living, progressive Christian experience, had a theme that turned their own, supported by the gentle and ardent character of his man, and the excellent spirit that was within. He was a good man, and universally honored and loved.

Rev. Jeremiah L. Furbush, was received into the church and ordained pastor April 1, 1842, and remained for four years.

Rev. Saml. Hall officiated a second time as pastor, commencing in January, 1846, and remaining two years.

Rev. Reuben Mowry was the next pastor. He came here in June, 1846, and continued a successful ministry for eight years till May, 1847, when he requested a dismission to accept a pastorate in Homer, N. Y.

Rev. N. G. Lovell had charge of the church for three years, commencing his labors in 1847 — being ordained June 23 of that year — and remaining until June, 1851. This was his last pastorate. He supplied a church in Valley Falls, R. I., for a few months and died there in November, 1851.

Rev. William H. Alden, now of Portsmouth, N. H., was ordained over this church September 1, 1852. He had supplied the pulpit for about a year previously, while still a student at Newton Theological Seminary. He continued in the pastorate till April 20, 1856, when he requested a dismission to accept the call of the First Church of Lowell, this State.

Rev. G. F. Warren was next called. He accepted the invitation of the church, and commenced his ministry October 1, 1857, when he was installed. He was dismissed in October, 1860, after a very successful pastorate.

Following Mr. Warren, Rev. J. F. Ashley, of Templeton, supplied the pulpit three months and was here on the breaking out of the war in the spring of 1861, when he enlisted. He was chosen captain of Company I, the volunteer company that was formed. "May 12th, the church unanimously passed a resolution earnestly protesting against the action of the company and the citizens, hoping he might be left to his duties at home." This action was of no avail and he led his company to the front. March 30, 1862, he asked to be dismissed. This request was granted, and his pastorate ended one year after its regular commencement.

Rev. A. C. H. accepted a call October 19, 1862. In December, 1865, his repeated resignation was accepted. To him succeeded Rev. George Cooper for a few years. He was ordained here June 1, 1866, the regular duties of the pastorate being assumed the following October. He was dismissed at his own request in December, 1867, and went to Glensville, N. Y. He is now in Richmond, Va. In 1871, Rev. Ephraim Chase, of Hightstown, N. J., returned and accepted a call from the church. He remained only about a year, but was warmly esteemed. In 1872, Rev. William Fitz, of Mount Pleasant, Va., became pastor, and during that year a conspicuous pastoral

age was built. He resigned in 1873, because the society was not able to meet the obligation it had imposed upon itself as an inducement for him to take charge of the church.

In April, 1874, Rev. Samuel T. Frost became pastor. His labors ceased at his own request July 1, 1875. After him the church called Rev. W. H. Kling, of Wakefield, R. I., who became their pastor December 22, 1875. His ministrations ceased in the autumn of 1881. In the spring of 1883 a unanimous call from both church and society was extended to Rev. F. W. Towle, of Rochester, N. Y. He remained until the spring of 1886, becoming very much endeared to the people. At that time failing health made it necessary for him to resign his labors and employ himself in a different vocation.

In August of 1886 a unanimous call was extended to Rev. Charles H. Wheeler. He was born in Wellesly village in the town of Needham, this State. He graduated at Brown University in 1882 and at Newton Theological Seminary in 1885. He commenced pastoral labors in Pittsfield, N. H., and from that place came to this town. He was installed here October 6, 1886, on the anniversary of the yearly Associational gathering, and is the present pastor of the church (1887).¹

The first meetinghouse was not finished till 1784, though it was erected many years previous, before the Revolutionary War, and meetings were held in it during that time. Peter Blackinton gave the lot on which it stood. The deed of gift was not made until some time after the house was built. It bears date October 13, 1783, and is given to "Daniel Daggett, Levi Maxey, Gent., Joseph Guild, Jun., Yeoman,"—the committee for the church,—“for the use of a meeting house lot, and that only forever.” Further, “Said lot contains by estimation one third of an acre, be it more or less. (Reserve to said Blackinton one apple tree on said premises). — and said Society to maintain two thirds of the fence on said lot. With warranty.” The first building was finished “in the old-fashioned style, with sounding-board, pulpit almost as high as the galleries, old men’s seats fronting the pulpit, square, high, upright pews, with railings through which the minister was seen, no stoves, no window curtains.”

The present meetinghouse was built in the spring of 1817 and is substantially the same as when erected. The present site “between the two roads, was offered by Col. Hatch, to which an addition was made by William Blackinton.” The new building had at first no vestry and was twenty feet shorter than now, and the church continued to use the old building, which stood where the schoolhouse now stands, for its social meetings for a number of years after this was built. About the same time a house was purchased of the “Cotton Manufacturing Company” for a parsonage, which was used

¹ Rev. S. Knowles is the present pastor. 1896.

until 1848. During that year a purchase was held, it being the house later occupied by Mr. Deane Day. The present parsonage, as has been stated, was built in 1812.

As we have seen, the church was formed in 1729, with ten members. In 1794 that number had increased to twenty-five, and ten years later there had been an additional increase of thirty. There have been periods of special revival and revival of the pulpit, notably Rev. Mr. Nelson. In 1810 there were one hundred and eleven members. In 1816, about a year after Mr. Nelson's death, pastor, the church had nearly doubled in size, there being then two hundred and seven members. The following year, 1817, thirty-three were dismissed to form the Baptist Church in Foxborough. At the end of eight years from this time we find the numbers greatly reduced, there being then one hundred and twenty-five members; two years later we find one hundred and forty-nine; and in 1842, while Rev. Mr. Mowry was pastor, the largest number, two hundred and twenty. In 1843 quite a number were dismissed to form another church, and for years 1844 the years ensuing there seemed to be a steady though gradual decrease, until under Rev. Mr. Warren large additions were made, and under Rev. Mr. Cooper's pastorate the number again exceeded two hundred.

Many have left this church and congregation to form religious societies in the vicinity, but the congregation is again increasing, and the present average is about two hundred, and the membership of the church one hundred and fifty-seven. The Sunday-school has nearly one hundred and sixty members, and the average attendance is about one hundred and forty.

Connected with the Church is a legal Society, formed and organized under the R. S. in 1846. Since 1846, Dec. 1, 1851. The society has the care of the property and the financial affairs of the church. Its business are the voluntary offerings of its members and the congregation, as the sittings in the church are free to all who choose to attend the religious services.

SOUTH BAPTIST CHURCH.

THE RECORDS WHICH IN SOME EXTENT WERE OBTAINED BY 1840 are LOST. The records cannot be found. April 20, 1789, the first and second Baptist churches in Attleborough met and agreed upon fellowship as sister churches. They were the first of the Massachusetts churches which were organized. (Official matters.) Elder Isaac Backus, of Middleborough, writes to the "Brethren" of this church, referring to those troubles. He and two brethren from his church were invited to be present at the ordination of some elder over the South Baptist church, which occurred July 3, 1765. Upon examination it was found that this church held to "communion with pedobaptists," therefore Elder Backus could not act with them. Other dissensions arose, but of their settlement the author knows nothing. The doctrinal matters must have

been satisfactorily arranged, or the union above mentioned could not have been consummated.

Elder Elihu Daggett was the first preacher. It is believed that he was never regularly settled here. He occasionally preached at the North Baptist church. He was the son of Deacon Mayhew Daggett, of this town. His wife was Rebecca Stanley, daughter of Jacob Stanley, one of the first of that name who came here from Topsfield. He had two sons, Ichabod and Mayhew, in the French War.¹ He was interred in the north burying-ground. On his gravestone is the following inscription: "Sacred to the memory of Elder Elihu Daggett, who died August 29th, 1769, in the 60th year of his age." "Sacred to the memory of Mrs. Rebecca Daggett, (his widow) who died September 20th, 1799, in the 85th year of her age.

"What we left behind us, others possess;

What we gave to the poor, we carried with us."

The next preacher was Elder Elisha Carpenter, Jr. He was settled June 7, 1778, according to a certificate found cited on the town records. He remained pastor of the church till about 1798, when he removed to Providence, N. Y., where he died.

Elder Carpenter's connection with the church was evidently not entirely dissolved until some years later than the above date, for in a letter to a sister dated "Attleborough, Jan. 26, 1802," he mentions the business meeting at which the church dismissed himself and his wife and were about to send them "away in Peace, with recommendations as they thought best." He speaks of having preached a few sermons and should preach what he could while he stayed. From this letter it would seem that he was acceptable to the church, and they were loth to part with him.² He was a native of this town, a son of Elisha Carpenter, and was born August 17, 1745. His wife was Anna Freeman, also of this town.

Soon after Elder Carpenter's removal the church was dissolved and the members connected themselves with other churches in the vicinity. The meetinghouse was taken down about 1810. It stood on the south side of the road leading from what was known twenty years later as the late Thomas Cooper's place to that of Captain Joseph Tiffany.

FIRST UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY.

The first meeting was held August 17, 1816, when the society was organized. The original compact states that "Daniel Richardson, Jr., Obed Robinson, and forty others associated themselves together as the First Uni-

¹ See Porter's *Memoir of Colonel Jonathan Eddy*, p. 4.

² He may have left town "about 1798," returning to preach sometimes, and the church may have refused a final dismission until about the date of the letter quoted. The expression "preach what he could" seems to imply feeble health. — EDITOR.

"Verdant Society in Attleborough." February 29, 1818, it was incorporated by Act of Legislature under that name. The first religious services were held in a hall belonging to Samuel Nowell, of West Attleborough. He was the proprietor of "Nowell's Tavern" at that time, and this hall was no doubt the one connected with his business here.

The first minister was the Rev. Richard Carrique, who commenced preaching here in May, 1817. A lot was purchased, and during the summer of 1818 a meetinghouse was built. It stood on the old post road a few feet south of the First Congregational meetinghouse and opposite Nowell's tavern. The building was dedicated on December 29, 1818, at which time Mr. Carrique was ordained (or installed?) and Rev. Hiram Ballou preached the sermon. Very little is known of Mr. Carrique's previous or subsequent life. A notice of the death of his son in Pawtucket states that he was born in Williamstown, this State, and from the dates given it would seem that the father must have resided in that place previous to his coming to this town. The same account speaks of the Rev. Mr. Carrique as "a much respected clergyman," and he was doubtless a man of considerable ability. He delivered an oration in the Baptist church upon a memorable occasion, and he seems to have been always connected with matters of public interest. During his residence in town he held meetings in the East village in Bokom's hall, and to these attempts to establish an interest in this denomination on that part of the town there was decided and without exception opposition on the part of some at least of the "orthodox" residents. Mr. Carrique's salary was four hundred and fifty dollars a year. He was dismissed in January, 1822.

The next minister was the Rev. Robert Kilham, who commenced preaching *MOORE* [S. 1822, 303] was soon after installed. He was dismissed in April, 1828. To him succeeded the Rev. Nathaniel Wright, who was installed during that same year, 1828. He continued for several years — was here doubtless in 1834 — but the date of his dismissal could not be ascertained.

The church thus continued for quite a number of years at Oldtown, but at length — and probably not long subsequent to the last-mentioned date — the society or some of its members commenced holding services in North Attleborough. Where these were at first held is not known to the writer, but after continuing them for a time sufficient interest was manifested to warrant the purchase of a lot, which was accordingly done, and in 1841 a new church edifice was erected on the site still occupied by the society. This building was dedicated on the 3d of November, 1841, and the sermon was preached by the Rev. William S. Balch, of Providence. The records state: "The weather was fine, the house was full as we could get out and stand, and some could not get in."

Meanwhile the church at West Attleborough (besetted away and finally removed to its present site) was sold at auction and bought by Mr.

Bartholomew Cushman who later sold it to the Methodists at North Attleborough." They took it down and removed it to that village, putting it up on the lot where the high school building now stands. (This was the society, it is said, many of whose members embraced the faith of the Millerites, and the building was used by that sect for its religious services.) Subsequently Mr. H. M. Richards became its owner and removed it to the Union House lot, joining it to that hotel, where it was used as a hall. When the hotel was burned, the hall was also burned.

In March, 1841, Rev. Benjamin H. Davis assumed the ministerial charge of the society, and succeeding him Rev. Mr. Lloyd and Rev. Mr. Coffin had charge each for a short time, but at what precise dates is not known.

Rev. J. D. Pierce became pastor in 1845, but after three years, on account of failing health, he was obliged to relinquish his duties. After his resignation in 1848, Rev. Joseph S. Dennis accepted the charge and remained until 1852. He was followed by Rev. C. Craven in January, 1853, who remained but a short time.

In May, 1855, Mr. Pierce was recalled to the pastorate from Claremont, N. H., and accepted. For more than a quarter of a century he was the faithful and devoted minister of this society, and was always ready for every good work which he found to do, and interested himself in whatever concerned the general interests and welfare of the town. He was particularly earnest in promoting the cause of common school education and was for many years an active member of the school committee, as well as a teacher. By his wise and judicious conduct and exemplary character he won and justly deserved the respect and confidence of all denominations throughout the town, and his death was regarded as a great public loss.

The following Memorial Record¹ was prepared by a committee chosen for the purpose and presented by them to the First Universalist Society.

“Joseph Dexter Pierce was born in the town of Scituate, Massachusetts, Nov. 15th, 1815. Having lost his father in early youth, he was brought to manhood by a mother's care. In early life he was apprenticed as a carpenter, and for some time worked at his trade. He had, however, a taste for intellectual pursuits, and, at his own expense, obtained a thorough academic education in the public schools of his native town, and at the Derby Academy in Hingham, Mass. He studied for the ministry with Rev. Dr. Hosea Ballou, 2d, the first President of Tufts College at Medford, Mass.

“While yet a student he preached his first sermon, Nov. 19th, 1839, in East Boston, where he was ordained the same year. After a few months labor in East Boston, he received a call to the Universalist society in Hart-

¹ Copied from the Attleborough Chronicle of February 23, 1884. The committee were: B. Porter, Jr., S. H. Buzbee, E. R. Price.

Irish Vermont, and was settled there Sept. 17th, 1840. This pastorate continued nearly five years, until May 13th, 1845.

At the age of twenty-nine years he received a call to the First Universalist society in Attleborough, and preached his first sermon as pastor of that society, June 29th, 1845. This society, after three years successful service, he was obliged to resign on account of ill-health. He continued to reside here, and on the recovery of his health, engaged in teaching in this town, and did pastoral work in Wrentham until the spring of 1850, when the First Universalist society of Chipmunk, New Hampshire, extended to him a call to become their pastor.

He accepted the call and commenced his flock, March 17th, 1850. His ministry in that place continued five years, and was so successful, that, to this day, there are people at Chipmunk who remember with grateful recollection the words of truth and sympathy which fell from his lips.

On May, 1855, he received a unanimous call to return to the First Universalist society at North Attleborough, and accepted it. His last sermon, after his removal, was preached June 3d, 1855. Here he labored successfully in the Master's vineyard until called to receive the reward of those who love their fellowmen, Tuesday, Nov. 26th, 1856, at the age of sixty-three years and one day.

During this pastorate of more than twenty-five years he worked heartily and suffered cheerfully, that he might advance the good doctrine by which he truly believed — 'that from the beginning, God had chosen all men to salvation, through sanctification of the spirit, and belief of the truth.' He was a constant attendant upon conventions and conferences, and interested in all the work of the denomination. He served thirteen years as a member, and most of the time as chairman, of the committee on Fellowship, Ordination, and Discipline. He was concerned in, or all concerned with, benevolent enterprises. But his chief work was in his pulpit, in pastoral work, and in the Sunday School. As a sermonizer, a reasoner, he stood high in the estimation of his brethren. As a pastor, carrying the faith he preached, and doing his Master's work, wherever sickness and sorrow called him, in all the homes of his own parish, and often in the homes of other parishes and denominations, he came as near the standard of the good minister of Christ as it falls to the lot of man to attain. When the church edifice was destroyed and the parsonage almost gone, and the prosperity of the society assailed, mainly by his efforts the church was reorganized. And so greatly did he value its influence that almost his last work was an effort to enlarge its membership and secure its efficiency. Such are the simple annals of the good minister of Christ.

A though Doctor Thoreau had a natural gift of preaching, and was daily life exemplified the spirit and teachings of the Divine Master. Of feeble health, — he came here that he had not known a waking hour free from pain for

fifteen years, — yet he devoted his time and talents to the work he loved with tireless zeal. He was in all the higher and grander elements of character an almost exceptional man. In him, living, this church and the world had a true exponent of the principles of Universalism, one, who by the daily beauty of his life gave dignity and power to its teachings, and who, dying, left his character to this society for their guidance and imitation, and his memory as a sacred trust."

November 30, 1855, Mr. Pierce married Martha S. Price, oldest daughter and child of George and Martha Grant Price, of this town. Four daughters of this marriage survive: Agnes, Mrs. John D. Long; Bertha, Mary W., and Helen, Mrs. Charles Esseltyn.

Mrs. Pierce was in every way eminently fitted for the position of a minister's wife. She was a woman of superior intellectual endowments and attainments and therefore an aid and an inspiration to her husband in the public duties of his office. She was possessed of a true, unselfish nature, a pure and lovely Christian character, and was peculiarly adapted to be the helpmeet of such a man as he was in all his faithful, unselfish ministrations among the suffering and sorrowing of his people. She survived him but a few years and died December 14, 1886, not only universally regretted, but mourned for with a real, heartfelt sorrow by all those who knew her well.

Mr. Pierce was a man of rare character, and he lived a rarely unselfish life, endearing himself to all who came in contact with him to an unusual degree. One recently testified to the truth of this statement and spoke of hearing frequent mention of his great worth, while to this day many humble persons repeat the story of his deeds of kindness and true charity to them and with simple, earnest words touchingly tell their own sorrow for his loss. Truly he was of such good men as they of whom the Master said: "They shall have their reward," and when they rest from their labors, their works do follow them."

The church edifice, built and dedicated in 1841, was twice somewhat changed, once in 1859 and again in 1865, when it was enlarged and improved both externally and internally. From that time it remained wholly unchanged till it was abandoned, a period of nearly twenty years, though it became in every way inadequate to the needs of the parish.

The members of the society who previous to 1840 removed from West to North Attleborough retained the original parish organization, and the society is therefore the one incorporated in 1818. With the church it is otherwise. Its members for some reason declined to remove from Oldtown and continued there for a time as a regular religious body, but finally diminished so that the church died away and the original organization was lost. Up to 1859 the only organization in North Attleborough was that of a *society*, but on March 9, 1859, when upon the completion of the alterations and repairs the edifice was rededicated, a *church* of about forty members was formed.

At the time work was commenced on the new building \$31,000 had been subscribed exclusive of the amount realized from the sale of the old building. The edifice was completed in less than two years and was dedicated April 17, 1884. It is of the Gothic style of architecture, constructed of red brick, the front especially being handsome and effective. The tower is one hundred and forty feet high, its base sixteen feet square, with corner buttresses, and the windows set in ornamental brickwork. The clock is fifty-six feet from the base, and above this the tower becomes six-sided, tapering upward in a beautiful spire. On the corner opposite the tower is a porch with a gable thirty feet in height, and connecting the two a cloister thirty-eight feet long covered by a receding roof. Above this cloister "is the most beautiful feature of the front, — a foliated window twenty feet across, and sixteen feet to its keystone." The point of this window arch is sixty-two feet high and is ornamented with brickwork, as are all the other windows throughout the building.

On the north side of the edifice is the chapel, two stories high and containing several rooms, with an L in the rear which contains the library, infant schoolroom, etc. Upon the west side is the parsonage, an attractive two-story house. There are in the front of the church two vestibules connected by the cloister and each opening into the main audience room, which is "sixty feet either way." This is a cheerful, well-lighted room, having neither gallery nor ceiling. The pulpit is opposite the front entrance doors, and the pews are arranged in semicircular form, with the choir gallery and organ on the north side of the pulpit. Behind this gallery is the door of communication with the chapel. The Sabbath-school room on its first floor is also a well-lighted room, thirty-four by thirty feet in size, and above it are the parlor, tea room, and kitchen, all thoroughly appointed. In the rear of the audience room is the passage leading to the parsonage, whose interior quite fulfils the expectations raised by its exterior, for it is a pretty and commodious house. The entire structure pleases and satisfies the eye and presents a striking appearance. It is very handsome, but neither too much so nor too imposing for its surroundings, — a country village, — but is appropriate to its position and a great ornament. It was erected at a cost of \$40,000 and is said to be the handsomest church of the denomination in this State. The idea of placing no debt upon the building was carried out in both letter and spirit, a fact we heartily wish could be recorded of every church edifice of every sect throughout the entire land.

There are eight memorial windows in the audience room, placed there by friends and relatives in memory of the following persons: Captain and Mrs. Abraham Hayward, Mrs. Oscar M. Draper, Rev. Joseph D. Pierce, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Richards, Mr. Stephen Richardson, Mrs. Helen D. Smith (wife of C. E. Smith), Mrs. Juline Richards (wife of the late H. M. Richards), and Mrs. Franklin. The memorial to Mrs. Draper, the beautiful central window

in the front of the church, or the largest half-bushment of the country. That of Mr. Pierce is on the opposite end of the church, over the pulpit, and the other two are placed three on either side of the building.

Dr. Cartwright resigned March 14, 1884. The following November the present pastor, Rev. William F. Patton, came here and was installed in January, 1885. He was born in Southampton, this State, in May, 1846. He received both his academic and theological education at St. Lawrence University in Canton, N. Y., where he graduated in 1868. His first pastorate was in Meriden, Mass., and previous to his coming to this land he had charge of churches in Wakefield, Attington, and East Boston respectively. This is his largest charge. His wife was Miss Lettie Lord, of St. Lawrence County, N. Y.

There is a conspicuous Sabbath-school connected with this church. Much attention is given to the cause here, and the church has expended in expenses that of any other church in town. The singing of songs holds a far more important place in the ceremonies of religious worship to-day than it held in those of our early New England fathers, and the present standard of education in this regard pronounces a liberal expenditure of money in the direction of obtaining the best possible music in our churches a wise expenditure. This large society has now a worthy and appropriate church edifice, one adequate to its needs and almost perfect in its appointments. The only regret possible in its contemplation is that the heart of him who worked his life-work among this people would not have been pained and encouraged by witnessing this proof of earnest effort on their part, and that his eyes could not have been gladdened by the sight of its beautiful completion—a reward for his untiring zeal and the consummation of his dearest earthly hopes.

HEBRON CHURCH.

This church was gathered by Rev. Thomas Williams immediately after his dismission from the west parish in 1827. On the 25th of December of that year several members of the First Church who resided in or near the village now called Hebronville (or Hebron) requested dismissal for the purpose of forming a new church, and they "unitedly agreed, in order to their greater usefulness in promoting the interests of religion, to become a new church, under the creed of Congregationalism." A small but neat meetinghouse was built at the same time on the line between Attleborough and Seekonk, —half in one town, half in the other,—to which and the neighborhood the name of Hebronville was given by the founder.

Rev. Mr. Williams secured the first pastor. He was the son of Joseph and Lucy Rouse Williams (her name given in 1800 Oct. Census), November 3,

¹ Mr. Patton received his educational preparation at Williamsburg, Mass. N. Y. Congregationalist, 1885, 1886, 1887.

1779. He entered Williams College in 1795, but in 1798 went to New Haven and graduated at Yale College in 1800. During the three succeeding years he was a teacher in Beverly and Boston, Mass., and Woodstock and Norwich, Conn. In the year 1804 he studied theology with Dr. Emonson, of Franklin. He was ordained as an evangelist at Killingly, Conn., May 16, 1804. During the years 1803-4-5 he also acted as a home missionary in New York, in addition to the other occupations mentioned. In 1806 he preached for a few months in Branford, Conn., and during the nine years succeeding he was acting pastor of the Pacific Church, in Providence, R. I. November 6, 1816, he was installed over the church at Foxborough, and was dismissed in November, 1821, having meanwhile again become acting pastor over his former church in Providence.

He was installed over the First Church in this town September 29, 1824, and dismissed "by mutual consent, without council," December 11, 1827, when, as has been seen, he became the pastor of the Hebronville church. This connection was dissolved in 1832. From that time on he was largely engaged in missionary service, especially in Providence and its vicinity. He was for several years acting pastor in Barrington, R. I., resided in Hartford, Conn., and East Greenwich, R. I., for a short period, returning from the latter place to Providence, where he remained until his death. It is said that during the period from April, 1840, to November, 1868, he preached not less than 2,200 times. In 1814 Brown University conferred upon him the honorary degree of Master of Arts.

On May 20, 1812, he married Ruth, the daughter of Isaac and Ruth Jewett Hale, of Newbury, Mass., by whom he had seven children. She died at Providence March 7, 1867. Mr. Williams died in the same place, of old age, September 29, 1876, aged ninety-six years, ten months, and twenty-four days. For several years "he had been the senior surviving graduate of Yale College, and he was the last living graduate of an American college in the eighteenth century."

Mr. Williams was a clergyman well known in this vicinity, and particularly to the people of this town, in whose churches even for many years after he ceased his pastorates he was a frequent preacher. Many will remember "Father Williams," as he was called in his later years; they will recall the rather tall, spare form, clothed in garments of a somewhat quaint fashion; the scanty, flowing white locks; the broad forehead, prominent nose, sunken cheeks; the large, determined mouth and the piercing, fiery eye; they will recall too the voice, which was low, almost indistinct at times, but which when he became interested and animated in his preaching rose to a higher pitch, growing louder and louder until its penetrating tones fell with perfect distinctness upon every listening ear. His sermons and prayers both seemed rather long to this generation, which demands its complete religion in a nutshell, the opening of which shall consume but a short space of even the Lord's

day, but both were crowded to close, well-defined terms, and the language was familiar, straightforward, and always easy to be understood, for his truest gift lay in his unobtrusive style. "He was," as someone has written, "a man of vigorous and active mind, one who entertained decided opinions on all subjects, religious and secular, and who was fearless in expressing them. He was animated in the delivery of his sermons, and always secured the attention of his hearers, not merely by his matter and manner, but by occasional use of strong and peculiar language. In preaching and sermizing he indulged largely in doctrinal subjects, and he suffered during his long life in the theology of New England."

He displayed peculiarly the power of wit and sarcasm, which he used when occasion required. He often engaged in discussions on public affairs and on various subjects, raised points on religious doctrinal points, and he never failed to repel the attacks of his opponents with keen repartee; and he always said something worth their best pains to remember. Many appreciated an extant of his quick retorts in these discussions, which often completely shattered the bolts of his adversaries, leaving them powerless and himself the easy victor in the field.

He was a truly disinterested man, spending often without hope of reward and hardly reserving to himself sufficient funds to meet his own necessary expenses on the journey of life. "He regarded himself as an instrument in the hands of his Master," one says, and "he appeared to me the most disinterested interest I ever knew."

He was the author of several volumes of sermons and numerous pamphlets, and he furnished divers articles for various periodicals. A number of these publications passed through several editions. They are too numerous to mention all of them, but a few are given, as they show the character of the man. "An Exhortation Aloud at Non-Resistance," from a sermon by Dr. Emmons; "Egomet," another sermon by the same writer; "The Greatest Sermon that ever was preached," "Little Sermons on Great Subjects," "Jehovah; or, Uni-Trinitarianism, A Sermon," "A Discourse on the Battle of the Great Day of God Almighty," "A Sermon on the Perfection of God, in the Imperfection of His People," etc.

His most interesting discourse was his funeral sermon on Dr. Emmons' death, which occurred September 28, 1846, entitled "The Official Character of His Nominous Language, and Truth and Slavery, A Sermon on His Life and Death." It was understood to be the agreement between these two some time before the death of either of them that the survivor should preach the funeral sermon of the other. This discourse was prepared by Mr. Williams years before Dr. Emmons died, and he made a journey to Franklin to read it to his audience. The good Doctor seemed to find it not wholly satisfactory, for after a time he interrupted his friend and began to demur at so much praise, insisting it was not deserved. "Tut, tut, Dr. Emmons,"

said Father Williams, "you must remember that you are a dead man:" and he went on with his reading, omitting we are sure not a jot or a tittle of the prepared eulogy.

Mr. Williams was a man of very strongly marked character in every respect and of equally marked abilities. He was in a singular degree a man of one purpose, and to that purpose he devoted himself entirely through his long life. For more than threescore years and ten he labored actively and earnestly in many places in the work he was so signally called to do. The good he did who can tell? He has gone, but his deeds remain.

Up to the year 1842 the Hebronville church continued to have Congregational ministers. In the spring of that year it became matter of conviction to the members that there were good and sufficient reasons for modifying and changing their creed. It was therefore voted to give up the creed of Congregationalism as a test of church membership and to adopt a covenant which should embrace all Christians without regard to sect. They thus became "an independent Church of Christ," denominating themselves "The Hebron Church, of Hebronville, Massachusetts." Their principles and beliefs are such as are held by other sects, though they perhaps give wider scope to individual beliefs or the expression of them than some others. They hold each church wholly independent and recognize no synod, presbytery, or conference; that is, they "recognize no earthly authority in church or state" over them, but they "believe on Christ's authority"; they have "the right and duty of self-government under the law of Jesus Christ," and they "recognize the same right in every local Christian church."

The following is a list of the successive pastors from the formation of the church to the present time:—

Rev. Thomas Williams,	Rev. J. C. Seagraves,
Rev. Charles Simmons,	Rev. Gardner Clarke,
Rev. William H. Hayward,	Rev. Reuben Allen,
Rev. John W. Caldwell,	Rev. Solomon P. Snow,
Rev. Joshua A. Stetson,	Rev. Samuel Heath,
Rev. Julia S. Mowry,	Rev. William B. Heath,
Rev. George W. Wallace,	Rev. John Q. Adams,

The present pastor is Rev. Albert F. Remington, who commenced his labors April 1, 1875.¹

The original building was sold and removed in 1870, and the new church erected in the same year was wholly in Seekonk. This edifice was burned down in 1875, and another built and dedicated on August 6 of the same year. The membership is not far from one hundred, and the church has a prosperous Sunday-school.

¹ Mr. Remington died September 7, 1888. His successor was the Rev. S. I. Adams. The present pastor is Rev. Joseph Fort, 1891.

BRIGGSVILLE CHURCH.

Organized in 1777, it is said to be organized under the Free Will Baptist order with thirty-one members. The church building is a few rods from the line of Richmond, and the original membership was about equally divided between that town and this. There was no settled pastor for three years, but at the end of that time Rev. James Stedden, of Providence, took the charge of the church. He was ordained in 1780 and dismissed in 1792.

A man of "uncommon supplies" followed, named in 1795 Rev. Jeremiah Irwin was ordained and settled. He remained until 1799. The church retained its name three times, it being known in Richmond as "The Free Will Church." From the time of Mr. Irwin's dismissal in 1799, Elders William Northrop, Daniel Hix, and others supplied the pulpit. At that time Elder Samuel Northrop became pastor, but the length of his pastorate is not known. After him various "Elders" supplied the pulpit, some being active pastors, until 1846 when Rev. David Storey was ordained. Following him was Rev. John W. Colwell, ordained in 1841. His successor was Elder Joshua Stetson, who was ordained in 1845. Elder Gardiner Clarke succeeded him and was acting pastor from 1846 till 1853.

Mr. Clarke was born in Hagerstown, Md., August 21, 1812. He spent his childhood and youth in Bedford, that State, and he received a good education. He was ordained in Canton, Md., in 1841. His labors among the people of the Briggsville congregation were very successful. At the time of his resignation of the charge the church numbered seventy-five members, a gain of nearly or quite a half during his stay. In 1837 Mr. Clarke married Jane R. Denton, of Wetherstown, Conn., by whom he had three daughters. He still resides in this town. He has had no particular charge for many years, but has preached more or less. In years past he frequently took charge of the services in the Second Congregational Church and sometimes on only a moment's notice. He has long been familiarly known to people in all parts of our town, both as a *theologian*, a *citizen*, and a *much-respected man*. He is among the few still remaining of the founding generation.

His successor over the Briggsville church was Elder Lowell Parker. Elders George W. Wallace and John Pratt and Elder Handy followed, and after them for a number of years the pulpit was supplied by students from Brown University. In the year 1876 the church had become greatly reduced and numbered only seven active members. During 1881-82 Rev. Mr. Clarke preached to the people for the second time "by the united request of the community."

The former members of the previous or passing generation are mostly dead, some few have moved to other churches, and what remains is com-

(18) Commenced Nov. 2, 1882. Had received a few contributions to several benevolent societies, and had a few contributions to the church.

ishing little church is now nearly or quite extinct. For some years the only service held has been one each Sunday, under the charge of the Methodist denomination.

THE CENTENARY METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

On November 26, 1865, Rev. D. H. Ela, a Methodist minister from Pawtucket, R. I., assisted by Mr. J. Davis, a layman from the same place, held the first meeting, from which the society started, in Union Hall, East Attleborough. Rev. Mr. Ela preached at the morning service, held at half-past ten, and Rev. J. J. Lansing at the afternoon service, held at half-past two o'clock in the same place, and Mr. Ela again in the evening. Thus Methodism began in this town, and meetings continued to be held during the following winter and previous to the organization of the church. December 10, 1865, the Sunday-school was organized, with forty members. J. Davis was superintendent; Ezra Arnold, assistant superintendent; Freeman Robbins, librarian; and William B. Hammond, secretary. The first class meeting was held on December 16, 1865, with thirteen persons present.

The church was organized March 10, 1866, by Rev. D. H. Ela, and the following were the original members: Ezra Arnold, Anna Arnold, Delia A. Arnold, Harriet A. Fuller, Delia R. Pierce, Edward D. Parmenter, Emily M. Parmenter, Mary A. Stone, Eliza A. Clark, Howard Drake, Augusta Drake, and Ellen M. Hammond. At a conference held at Bristol, R. I., March 23, 1866, the first pastor was appointed.

The original membership was composed chiefly of those who were professors of Methodism and therefore had no church home in town until this time, and a very small number came from the Second Congregational Church. This church was organized under the name of "The Davis Centenary Methodist Episcopal Church," but subsequently for good and sufficient reasons the word Davis was dropped from the name and is not used by the church at all now. The word "centenary" was taken because the church was formed just a century from the time Methodism was started in this country. In the year 1766 a few persons who had belonged to "the Wesleyan connection" in England formed themselves into a society. This was done in a carpenter's shop on Barrack Street, in New York, near the site of the present city hall. This was the small beginning of this Protestant denomination, now the largest in the land.

The first building, on the site of the present one on North Main Street, was commenced in 1866, ground being broken in the autumn of that year, and the cornerstone being laid on October 26. The vestry was occupied for the first time on the first Sunday in June, 1867, and the completed church building was dedicated February 23, 1869. The sermon upon that occasion was preached by Rev. Mark Trafton. This building was erected at a cost of \$17,000, \$7,000 only of which was provided for, leaving a debt

upon the bounty of \$10,000. At the end of three years, in 1875, one half of that large field had been cleared, and the other half by 1880. In November of that year the happy event was "celebrated with a grand dinner," participation of all the former pastors of the church and many friends, and the occasion was one of great thankfulness and rejoicing.

On Sunday morning, December 2, 1883, within a month of the time the first lot had been cleared, the church was finally destroyed by fire. A fireman came back just then placed in the building at a cost of \$1,700, and this was the result. The Roman Catholics of the East village, then worshipping in Union Hall, on the very site of the one which they were about to lose, were the unfortunate congregation for certain hours of the day; the Second Congregational Church made a suitable office, and Mr. J. M. Bates a room in one of our jewelry shops. This last office was accepted, and the society continued to worship there until the vestry of the new church was ready for occupancy. The room was occupied for nearly a year, and Mr. Bates generously refused to accept any remuneration for its use.

"The vestry were not idle on the site of the burned edifice, but many measures were taken for erecting a new church building." Early in the spring following the fire work was commenced, and December 1, 1884, the vestry was completed and occupied. About three months later the entire church was finished, and was dedicated in March 1885. It is a more handsome and more commodious building than the first one and more convenient and complete in its arrangements. It contains audience room, vestry, infant Sabbath-school room, and ladies' parlor on the ground floor, and a large kitchen, dining-room, and various small rooms in the basement. This building cost nearly \$30,000, and the first in the funds of the society at the commencement was \$12,000, the amount of the insurance on the old building.

Through the people of this church have had to labor under many discouragements in their very midst and to make many sacrifices to secure their present substantial and attractive house of worship, they have not forgotten to instruct the true spirit of Methodism in their missionary work. In May, 1871, Rev. E. D. Hall, with Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Lupton and Mr. and Mrs. F. Robbins, formed a mission at Chartley, in Norton. A Sunday-school was established, and a church very soon organized, consisting at first of nine members. A chapel costing \$1,500 was built and dedicated on February 3, 1876, free of debt. The present membership of this little church is about thirty, with a congregation of sixty or seventy.

The following is a list of the pastors of the Centenary Methodist Church, with the dates of their appointments:—

Rev. A. C. Adams, A. M.	1847-50	Rev. James W. W. Jones	1877-85
Rev. Henry O. Hartshorn	1850-53	Rev. A. W. Sargent	1885
Rev. W. H. May	1853-55	Rev. George W. Thomas	1885-87
Rev. F. D. Hall	1855-57	Rev. J. A. L. Hall	1887-89
Rev. Philip C. Stevens	1857-59	Rev. William A. Jones	1889-97

Rev. Walter Ela is the present pastor. He commenced his labors in this town in April, 1887.¹

In the little more than twenty years of its existence, this church has increased from twelve or fifteen members to nearly if not quite two hundred and fifty. Its Sunday-school is a very large and flourishing one. It has upon its roll about three hundred and fifty names, and the average attendance is two hundred and fifty.

THE HEBRONVILLE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

This church was organized April 4, 1875, in Hebron Hall, where it continued to worship for several years. In 1881 the pastor in charge seemed especially to recognize "the necessity of a new church edifice, and early in the year set himself at work to secure it." In a short time quite a sum of money was subscribed and work commenced, and the cornerstone was laid in October of the same year. It required strenuous exertions on the part both of pastors and people to complete the church building, which was erected at a cost of about \$12,000. They were however very successful and on April 5, 1883, the pretty edifice was dedicated, "virtually free from debt."

This church has had nine pastors, only one of them remaining three years. At the time of its formation there were twenty-seven members, and at present there are about fifty. The society holds regular services in Dodgeville as well as in Hebronville and has a Sabbath-school in both places, each numbering over a hundred scholars.

The first pastor, in 1875, was Rev. John Q. Adams, who remained but one year. In 1876 Rev. J. H. Sherman was appointed, and he continued three years. Rev. Robert Clark, 1879; Rev. George W. Wright, 1880; Rev. Charles S. Neetler, 1881; Rev. Eben Tirrell, 1882; Rev. S. M. Beale, 1883; Rev. J. Q. Adams, 1884. Rev. Charles W. Hinckley was the pastor in 1887. [The present pastor (1893) is Rev. W. B. Heath.]

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

This church was established about 1871, and in that year land was purchased of Dr. J. M. Solomon on the "plain" between the Boston and Providence and the Attleborough Branch railroads. The committee of the church at that time were Isaac R. Johnson, John Williams, and Israel Jackson. The first building was a small house purchased by the society. It stood where Murray Church now stands and was used by Mr. Staples as a shop. This building was burned down. Since that time some additional land has been purchased and a new church edifice erected, larger and more convenient than the former. The entire property is valued at \$2,500.

¹ Rev. A. Metcalf was the successor of Mr. Ela, assuming the pastorate in the spring of 1889. To him succeeded the Rev. Richard Povey, and to him the present pastor, Rev. George E. Brightman. During this year, 1893, a parsonage has been built on Sanford Street, just in the rear of the church.

This church belongs to the New England Conference of African Churches. The original number of members was about twelve; the present number is sixtymx. There is a Sunday school connected with the church, which now has over fifty scholars. The pastors are as follows: Rev. R. H. G. Dyma; Rev. Johan H. Ahlsson; Rev. Charles C. Rignall, whose terms extended over two years each; Rev. Daniel Bradley; Rev. Robert Pease; Rev. E. George Babbie, whose terms continued for three years each; Rev. George H. Simmons came here June 13, 1880, and remained about a year. In 1887 Rev. M. A. Bradley was appointed pastor. [Rev. C. D. Hazel is the present pastor, 1896.]

GRACE CHURCH—LUTHERAN.

The first service in town under the auspices of the Protestant Episcopal Church was held at North Attleborough about September 1, 1858. This service was "by request, about two hundred being present." The officiating clergyman was the Rev. Julius S. Townsend. He had been rector of Trinity Church, Pawtucket (then in Massachusetts). Regular services were held in both the North and East villages, in the latter place in Union Hall in the evening; and on March 30, 1859, "a parish was duly organized under the name of Grace Church," with Mr. Townsend for its rector. The double services were continued, and it was the rector's desire and plan to have a church building in both of the above named villages. He labored very earnestly and faithfully for a year and a half, but was then compelled to resign the work because of ill-health. This was in May (1860).

During the four succeeding months the services were conducted by several different clergymen, and then Rev. Edward Cowley became pastor. He resigned at the end of a year. While he was in town the services were held at the Falls instead of at North Attleborough. From this time—about June, 1861—until March, 1864, services were discontinued. Then for three months Mr. (now Rev.) Samuel H. Webb took charge at the Falls as lay reader.

In June, 1864, Rev. A. C. Patterson, "a missionary at large," became rector, and while he had charge the land upon which the church is built was purchased. Up to this time services had been held in four different places in town; namely, Union Hall, East Attleborough; Union and Odd Fellows halls, North Attleborough; and at the Falls schoolhouse. Mr. Patterson's rectorship was a short one and closed by his resignation, and from the time he left town until 1871 the interest in the work of this denomination seemed to subside. Occasional efforts were made to resume services, but they were unsuccessful.

In 1871, however, "a united and decided effort was made to revive the parish." A subscription paper was started to raise funds for building a church, and \$2,000 were pledged. Services, too, were held at Mr. W. D. Williams' house in the Free Evangelical Church. In September of that year

Rev. J. S. Beers became the rector, and regular services were resumed and held in Templars Hall. October 17 the ground was broken for the church edifice. A few months later Mr. Beers commenced soliciting aid in Boston, in which work he was very successful, and the cornerstone was laid June 14, 1872. This ceremony was performed by the Grand Masonic Lodge of this State, and the religious services were conducted by the Grand Chaplain, Rev. E. M. P. Wells, D.D., of Boston.

Meanwhile an additional lot of land had been purchased, and two months after the laying of the cornerstone the rectory was commenced. It was finished in June, 1873. The church was finished and opened for its first service March 12, 1873. It has sittings for two hundred and eighty-four people and is valued at \$11,000. The rectory is valued at \$4,500. These figures show that in a very few years a large amount of work was successfully done by this small parish. The church was not consecrated until over a year after its completion, for in the Episcopal denomination no church edifice can be consecrated until it is entirely free from debt, a provision in the church polity that all denominations might well adopt.

The number of members in the church in 1860 was eleven; when the reorganization took place there were eighteen; and the present number is one hundred. There are more than a hundred families connected with the parish. The Sunday-school was reorganized October 1, 1871, and it now numbers one hundred and thirty, with an average attendance of about ninety.

The consecration occurred on June 18, 1874, and there were special services during two days. A large number of the clergy from Boston, Providence, Taunton, and many other places were in attendance. The consecration sermon was preached by the Rev. Phillips Brooks, of Trinity Church, Boston.

Grace Church has had four rectors since its reorganization. Rev. J. S. Beers was the first of these. He was born in Fairfield County, Conn., and it was not until he had attained the age of twenty-one that he decided to enter the ministry. Previous to that time he had for some years been employed in some business house in Bridgeport, Conn., and it was there, doubtless, that he formed the habits and gained the knowledge which enabled him to manage successfully the business and financial matters of the churches over which he was subsequently placed. The fact that he had reached his majority before beginning the special preparations for his lifework showed that he had weighed the matter carefully in his own mind before making his decision and that he thoroughly understood its purport and requirements. As has been said, he acted from judgment, not impulse, and devoted himself thoroughly and entirely to his work, laboring for the temporal good of his charges and their higher spiritual good with equal zeal and fidelity.

Mr. Beers was a man of great energy, for, notwithstanding his lack of early education and mental training, he graduated from the Episcopal Theo-

logical Seminary in Philadelphia "with an honorable standing." He soon obtained a good store of the fruits of the doctrine and practice and in doing so he most faithfully discharged the duty of his parish. He remained in the society of 1840 and resided in Foxcroft, Me.,. He remained there until 1841, when he received the appointment of general missionary in the Episcopal Church in this State. After finishing his education in books he became quite a student and found recognition as a member of ability, for he lost Trinity College conferred the degree of Master of Arts upon him. After his appointment as a missionary he took up his residence in North, this State, and continued there until he died in November, 1866, at the end of a life not long in years, for he was but fifty, but complete in much work well done. One says of him: "His consecration to the Christian ministry, thorough knowledge of business methods, and indomitable energy, gave him success in the field of labor, true of a missionary."

Rev. Frederick A. Fiske was the pastor who succeeded Mr. Boake. He had been born at Rey, Maine and Margaret Sherwood Fiske, of Wrentham, whom he was wedded April 22, 1846. He was fitted for college at the well-known Days Academy in that town and graduated at Amherst College in 1848. After this he took the full course at Yale Theological Seminary and then at once entered upon ministerial work. He was a Congregational minister for nearly or quite twenty years and settled in some pastorate during the greater part of that time. For some three or four years previous to 1865 he had a private school for boys in Newton, this State. He had been a teacher between the time of his graduation from college and his entering the theological school, and he gained a wide reputation as a successful educator.

The results of a severe illness compelling him to seek the benefits of a milder climate, he accepted the position of superintendent of education in North Carolina in 1865. He continued in this office for three years and filled it most acceptably. He was, however, always possessed with a strong desire to return to New England and resume the duties of the ministry there, counting the days spent in that work the pleasantest of his life; and therefore in 1868 he resigned his position at the south and returned to the north. It would have been years and years in the north, but he entered the Episcopal Church. He became rector of Trinity Church in Great Barrington, this State, and later of St. Paul's in Brookfield, Conn., and from the latter place came to this north in 1876. After four years there in and for the church, death called him, for his work was done.

The words of others most fitly describe the character and life of this singularly devoted man. Says the Attleborough Chronicle: "Mr. Fiske was a man of scholarly attainments, irreproachable character, genial, social, and kind in all his intercourse with the church and world. His rectorship among us has been abundantly blessed, and his departure so unexpected, has elicited the most profound grief and heartfelt sympathy. Bishop Paddock,

at the funeral services, made a feeling tribute to the departed, speaking of the great loss all had sustained, — of his unselfish devotion to his work and people. He loved to minister as one that serveth. It was his highest honor, the basis of his life. His service has been very faithful. Wherever his work, that work was honorably performed and his reward was with God."

In the convention address delivered in May, 1879, is the following notice, a beautiful tribute from the pen of Bishop Paddock: "In the modest rectory, that, with the Church at its side, crowns the little knoll of an ample lot in a pretty village of Bristol County, one of our best rural pastors lay down to die soon after he had given God thanks for the good example of dear Dr. Wells, (a loved city missionary of the Episcopal Church in Boston.) This man, coming to his parish two years before, had found the wise and far-sighted work and outlays of his valued predecessor burdened with such honest, but partially unexpected indebtedness as changed times have brought upon many of the parishes all over the land. The time came, last autumn, when about \$2,000 of this indebtedness *must be raised*, to avert disaster. He did not create the obligation; but it was Christ's cross that lay right athwart his path, to remove it. First letting it cost *himself* more, perhaps, than he would expect of any one else, he then roused the hearts of all, even to the children, of his flock, and they all responded nobly. Then strengthened, as he supposed, in his gentleness and modesty, by a statement and commendation from his Bishop, he went from door to door in Boston, to let others bear the burden with him, and so fulfill the law of Christ. From a few he received refusals which pained him, from a few good advice against parishes getting into debt, from others modest offerings towards his longed for getting out of debt and saving a valuable property. Twice he broke in his weary rounds; but at last he succeeded and went home with the church's property saved, and his life given for it. After a few weeks of exhaustion and suffering, the Rev. Frederick Augustus Fiske, Rector of Grace Church, North Attleborough, died Dec. 15, 1878, and was buried by myself and other brethren amidst a town full of mourners. He was a man of manly and strong piety, clear and happy in his convictions, and of willing and unwearying labor."

January 5, 1869, Mr. Fiske married Avlin W. Woods, a granddaughter of the Rev. Dr. Leonard Woods, of Andover, one of the founders of the theological seminary in that place. She survives him, and one son by a previous marriage, Mr. F. E. Fiske, of Taunton.

The next rector of this church was Rev. George R. Wheelock, who remained but one year. He came in September, 1879, and resigned in September, 1880.

The church was without a rector until January 23, 1881, at which time the Rev. George E. Osgood, the present rector, assumed its charge. He was born in Boston June 6, 1854. He was educated at the Waltham High

School and under private instruction for two years, ending with a five years' course at the Episcopal Theological School at Cambridge. He then became assistant to Dr. William R. Huntington, then rector of All Saints' Church at Worcester, now St. George Church, New York City. He was at the same time rector of St. Matthew's Church at South Worcester. He resided in these positions for two years and a half, when he came to this town.

Ordnained in 1889, Mr. Osford married Helen F. Beach, of Haverhill, Maine. They have two children, Phillips F. and Edgar F. Osford.

Up to the autumn of 1887 there was levied upon the vestry something to about \$1000. During that season the pecuniary strain was eased by subscription among the people of the parish, and the entire church property thus wholly freed from obligations. The church is constantly increasing in prosperity.

There is one memorial window in the church, placed there in memory of Mrs. Abigail Bowens, who was born November 23, 1799, and died October 18, 1868.¹

THE FIRST EVANGELICAL CHURCH.

The beginning of this church dates back to 1844. At that time a "body of earnest christian workers" left the Baptist Church because they had embraced the doctrines of Millerism. They built a chapel at Plainville, where they worshiped for some time. April 30, 1854, they organized themselves into this church, their basis of organization being "The Doctrines on which Evangelical denominations are agreed," their creed and practice being that of open communion Baptists. Naturally the assumed rule of admitting to membership in this church is bearing by profession, not membership at other churches, no admitted you have not been so baptized, hence doubtless their peculiar name.

During the first year there was no regular pastor, the pulpit being supplied by twelve different ministers. On March 30, 1859, Rev. Cyrus Cunningham became the settled pastor, and from that time the church received recognition from the other churches in town and elsewhere. At the organization there were twenty-four members, and at this time there were seventy.

Mr. Cunningham was born in Northern Ohio State. He received a college school education and made his preparations for the ministry with a clergyman in Salem. This was his second pastorate, the previous one having been in Westford, the same, where he remained for three years. His wife was Mary Duggett, and while they resided in this town they had one son, who is a Baptist Minister. Mr. Cunningham resided here seven years, and

¹ The inscription on this window is as follows: "Abigail Bowens, born Nov. 23, 1799, died Oct. 18, 1868. This church was built in honor of her memory." The window is in the south wall of the church, and is the only one of the kind in the town.

during that time the church services were conducted in Barden's Hall. He is now pastor of the "Shawmut Avenue Messiah Church" in Boston.

Rev. John A. Heagy was the succeeding pastor. During his stay the church edifice was built. It was commenced in 1867, but not entirely completed for three years. The lecture room was finished and used for fully two years before the entire building was completed. The dedication occurred February 24, 1870.

The third pastor was Rev. G. H. Childs, who remained here only two years, from 1870 till 1872. In the latter year Rev. H. Canfield accepted the charge. At that time the church had one hundred and thirty members and the Sunday-school one hundred and fifty.

To Mr. Canfield succeeded Rev. John Wood, who remained several years. He was much interested in all public town matters, educational work, etc. During the summer or fall of 1885 he resigned and with his family went to California the ensuing winter. In October, 1886, Dr. E. M. Levy became pastor, but he remained only about a year, when he resigned. Some time after this Rev. W. L. Lockwood received a call from the church after having supplied the pulpit for a while.

The church edifice in this society was erected at a cost of from \$8,000 to \$10,000, and repairs to the amount of some \$7,000 have also been made. This entire sum has been paid. In 1883 the parsonage at the rear of the church was built. The present membership is over two hundred, and the Sunday-school, formed very soon after the organization of the church, has a membership of probably between one hundred and fifty and two hundred.¹

CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

The people of Attleborough Falls were for many years compelled to go either to North Attleborough or Oldtown for public worship. The need of a church organization and a church building had long been felt. Attempts were from time to time made to have some permanent organization, and a clergyman once came to town and labored for about a year, and then the attempt fell through from opposing obstacles which arose. Finally in March, 1866, a Sabbath-school was established with Welcome Aldrich as superintendent. The late Job Savery took a great interest in this work and did much to advance it. The school held its sessions in the basement of the schoolhouse in the village, where other religious services were also held. These latter were conducted in turn by various pastors of different denominations in town. As this arrangement did not prove wholly to meet the demands of the surrounding community a canvass was made and sufficient money subscribed to insure a regular Sabbath supply of preachers. The committee having this matter in charge was composed of representatives

¹ 1894. Present pastor, Rev. A. R. Pease.

from several denominations, each one of which gave its share in spiritual culture all the year for the better forth of its opportunity years.

Thus gave at first promised good results but it failed completely before the end of a single year. The previous arrangement was again inadequate, the men little success, and every project looked very disappointing. A newly settled pastor as common part of the town had his attention called to the true state of affairs and made efforts to remedy the catastrophe. Not much could be done at once, but the Massachusetts Home Missionary Society had reason to hope after the spiritual needs and interests of this community, and at the meeting of the Eastern Conference held in October, 1871, at North Andover, New Hampshire, this matter was presented to the members present, and a day was appointed for the conference committee to visit the town and look over the ground. This was done with the result that the Home Missionary Society was authorized to send a permanent preacher to this community as soon as it could find the right man.

Among the different men sent was a young man named disappointed as a foreign missionary, and it was at once decided that he was "the one looked for," and he was engaged to remain until he should be called to his foreign service. George H. Tilton's first Sabbath at the Falls was January 4, 1874. He is the son of William Wolfe and Sarah Ann (Merrill) Tilton and was born in Newlin, N. H., January 11, 1847. He went to Concord and Hopkinton, that State, while a child, his parents having removed to those places. He attended district schools, the Contocook and Hopkinton academies, and for a term the Rumford Grammar School at Concord, under a very faithful teacher, Mr. James W. Webster. He then entered Williston Seminary, at Easthampton, this State, where he graduated in 1866, ready for college. He graduated at Amherst College in 1870 and at Andover Theological Seminary in 1873, and on June 1st of that year he had accepted of Hingham, N. H. He then took a course of medical instruction in New York City, having no necessary work to do. Soon after finishing that course he came to this town, where he was cordially welcomed by the people and had promptly offered \$500 to construct parsonage for himself and family, and at the end of two days was given command of the office for an indefinite period. Mr. Tilton took hold of the work before him in earnest and very soon found there was sufficient interest in the community to justify the formation of a church, which was done. He continued here, working with and for this people until the new church building was completed. He resigned in May, 1875.

He preached for fully a year and a half after this in Wolfborough, N. H., marked some falling up being there. He had meanwhile been engaged to relinquish his former place of teaching a teacher ultimately, and as a result of overwork he was compelled to resign all active work for some months at New Parish. He continued preaching in the Congregational Church in Belvidere village in February, 1876, and ending his preaching there.

January 1, 1878. He continued to preach there for five years and on November 2, 1882, was regularly installed as pastor. On June 6, 1876, he was married to Ella Minerva, a daughter of Thomas and Minerva Wheaton (Freeman) Mann, of this town. They have three children.

Mr. Tilton still continues in this pastorate, a pleasant and successful one.¹ He was the projector of the enterprise which has given to the town of Rehoboth its beautiful "Memorial Hall," and to his earnest efforts the satisfactory result of the enterprise is very largely due. It is pleasant to praise the generosity of those who contributed their money so liberally in this cause and to record the fact that Mr. Tilton's labors have been appreciated. Entirely without his knowledge friends procured an excellent portrait of him, and upon the day of the dedication of Goff Memorial Hall this was publicly presented to him with well-deserved words of praise and with the request that he would permit it to remain in the hall, that future generations may see "the good man" who so faithfully labored for their good in promoting the interests of the town.

Rehoboth and old Attleborough were so long and so closely allied that what interests the one town has a more than common interest for the other, and the old Orthodox church of the older town and the new Orthodox church of the younger town have a special tie between, in that both have been benefited by the labors of the same earnest and faithful minister.

As was stated, soon after Mr. Tilton commenced his work here, sufficient interest was manifested to warrant proceeding in the movement towards a church organization. A meeting was held March 19, 1874, and a Congregational church was formed, calling itself the Central Congregational Church of Attleborough. The first deacons elected were Edwin Shepardson and Welcome Aldrich, the first treasurer William Fisher, and the clerk H. N. Daggett. A council for the recognition of the new church was held in Agricultural Hall on the thirty-first of the same month, Dr. Blake preaching the sermon. Meetings continued to be held in the schoolroom, but the place was entirely inadequate to the wants of the congregation, and simultaneously with the formation of the church a movement in the direction of a building was made.

This enterprise, once started, was "pushed forward with great energy, both by the pastor and H. N. Daggett, and some other stirring men of the village." It took just five weeks from the formal recognition of the formation of the church for these energetic men to perfect their arrangements and commence the contemplated work of building. The old burying-ground was the site selected for the edifice, and it was necessary to remove some of the bodies interred there. It was with considerable difficulty in some cases that the

¹In 1891 Mr. Tilton resigned his pastorate in Rehoboth, preaching his last sermon there on November 28 of that year. He went to Lancaster, N. H., where he still resides.

members of the society were abundant, but all such offerings were finally refused. The building committee were Handel N. Daggett, John F. Sturdy, and Willard Robinson. They began work on May 5, 1875, and on June 26 the cornerstone was laid. The pastor, Rev. Mr. Titton, made the first annual sermon, and Rev. J. F. Wadsworth, of Portland, delivered the address upon that occasion. The exercises were participated in by Rev. Samuel Bell, Rev. John Wheelock, Rev. H. Canfield, of this town, and Rev. Dr. Blodgett, of Portland. In the forenoon were placed the names of the members of the church, a copy of the deed and mortgage, a copy of the rules of expenses of the day, two copies of the *Chimes*, containing offerings for the establishment of the church, pictures of soap and spices, and the business card of Mr. J. F. Sturdy. The stone was laid in its place by Mr. Daggett.

The work of building went rapidly forward under the efficient supervision of the committee. Mr. Daggett arranged with much forethought and had the masons, carpenters, and painters at hand when their special work was made for them, "and they did not leave it till it was done." Early in December, 1875, services were held in the vestry, and "by the untiring efforts of the committee the structure was completed in less than a year." The building is of wood, with a brick basement, is about forty-one by sixty feet in measurement, and of Gothic design, with a spire whose top is one hundred feet from the ground. The clock was the gift of the village and cost \$500, and the bell was presented by Mr. John F. Sturdy. The lecture-room will seat about three hundred people; there is also a library room and a kitchen department with all necessary accommodations. The basement floor above seats about five hundred.

It is thirty-four feet high to the peak of the roof and is well furnished and furnished. It has eight side windows of colored glass and three rose windows, the *triforium* and *sanctuary* to the front and the other openings over the chancel. The chancel contains the pulpit and choir seats, with the organ at the right or west side, and there is a small gallery at the opposite end of the church. At the left of the chancel is a tablet containing several texts of Scripture, and the date of the organization of the church, the laying of the corner-stone, and the names of the several pastors. This church cost between \$10,000 and \$15,000. The largest contributors were H. N. Daggett, J. F. Sturdy, and the late Willard Robinson; and several others among the business men of the village were very liberal in their donations. The ladies of the congregation also did their full share of the work. The fruits of one young lady's industry purchased the beautiful communion service; "a group of young ladies" gave an antiquarian supper and raised \$100 for settees and organ for the vestry; and the older ladies by a series of fairs raised \$500 towards furnishing the church. The work was a great one to accomplish in so short time, for exactly one year by date from the day the ground was broken, on May 5, 1875, the completed church building was dedicated.

There was a large congregation present on that occasion, and several clergymen of prominence took part in the exercises. Rev. S. M. Newman, Rev. H. B. Hooker, D.D., Rev. William Barrows, D.D., and Rev. M. Blake, D.D., among them. Rev. Mr. Bell, then pastor of the Second Congregational Church, made an historical address, and the dedication sermon was preached by Rev. J. M. Manning, D.D., of Boston, from 1 Kings 8:27. Fine music was rendered by musicians from Providence, and a dedication hymn composed by Mrs. L. B. Sweet was sung by the congregation. This was the closing event of Mr. Tilton's pastorate, and his labors here terminated at that time, greatly to the regret of the people of the church and the community.

The next minister in charge was Rev. F. E. Marsten,¹ and he was followed by Rev. F. D. Kelsey, their pastorates together covering a period of five years.

In August, 1880, Rev. George O. Jenness commenced his labors here. He was born in Methuen, this State, April 14, 1837. He was educated partly at Atkinson Academy in New Hampshire and at the Baptist College in Richmond, Va. He pursued his theological studies with Rev. Ebenezer W. Bullard, of Hampstead, N. H., now of Stockbridge, this State. He was ordained in 1869 and commenced preaching in Virginia. Subsequently he modified some of his views and became a Congregationalist and had his first pastorate as such at Wakfield, N. H. While there he accepted the call to this church. Mr. Jenness was married January 13, 1872, to Mary A. Merrill, of Hampstead, N. H. They have two children living, Annie M. and Manora.

The Central Church organized with twenty-four members and at the present time it has sixty-two and a congregation averaging about one hundred. The Sunday-school, organized in March, 1866, has upon its roll one hundred and fifty names and an average attendance of ninety.²

MURRAY UNIVERSALIST CHURCH.

The first attempts made by this denomination to establish religious services in East Attleborough were not far from 1820, or during the pastorate of the Rev. Richard Carrique over the First Universalist society in Oldtown. There was, however, at that time great opposition manifested against these attempts by some of the leading Congregationalists of that part of the town, who were very decidedly opposed to the doctrines of Universalism. How long the meetings continued is not known, but it is certain that no permanent foothold was gained at that time, and that no further efforts were made for

¹In June, 1877, Mr. Marsten married Ida M. Freeman, daughter of the late Joseph J. Freeman, of Attleborough Falls. The ceremony took place in the church and was performed by Rev. Mr. Kelsey, his successor. Mr. Marsten is now settled in Columbus, Ohio, where he is pastor of a large Presbyterian church.

²Mr. Jenness' successor was Rev. Walter T. Laxon. The present pastor, 1896, is Rev. J. H. McArthur.

mostly as guests last a century. There were they probably very few of the denomination in the first village, but, as with the surrounding rural population, formerly people of this faith in larger numbers became converts, and some twelve or fifteen years ago they were numerous enough to think of having a church and parish of their own.

In the initial work serious was more earnest than the late Charles E. Hay worth. The first house of public worship was taken up June 19, 1873, when the organization of Murray Universalist Church took place. The services were held in Union Hall from the time until December 19 of the same year, when Murray Chapel, the upper part of the late Edwin J. Hartness building on North Main Street, was dedicated to the purposes of religious worship. Services continued to be held there for nearly ten years. The society was incorporated May 14, 1881, as Murray Universalist Society. The name was given in honor of Rev. John Murray, the founder of the denomination in this country. He came from England in 1770, and one says: "The circumstances giving way to fiction at Grand End, New Jersey, and associated in the old Potter Meeting-house, which Thomas Potter had built in the faith that 'God would send a preacher,' read like a romance. He was the John Wesley of Universalism."

The first pastor of Murray Church was Rev. Franklin C. Flint. He was here but a few months, from November, 1875, until his death, which occurred March 23, 1876. The second pastor was Rev. Alphonso E. White, who ministered nearly two years, from September, 1876, to July, 1878.

In October following, Rev. Edward W. Elliott received a call from the church, which was accepted, and he commenced his labors here October 1, 1878. He had been in Philadelphia, Pa., since January 23, 1876; he went through the course of instruction in the public schools of his native city, graduating from the Central High School in July, 1870. The following year he entered the Divinity School of Tufts College, this State, took the regular four years' course there, and then remained another year for special study. He was settled first in Saugus, this State, at which place he was ordained September 29, 1875.

Soon after his settlement here the matter of a church building began to be talked of and special efforts in that direction to be made. Mr. Ilman labored with great faith and earnestness in this cause, and he was ably seconded by all the people of his parish. In May, 1881, the society decided to buy a lot on South Main Street, just below its union with North Main Street, for \$2,000. Efforts were redoubled and, before the pastor resigned, sufficient money was pledged to assure the desired result and to warrant beginning the work of building the edifice.

Mr. Ilman resigned this pastorate May 1, 1884, to take charge of the Third Universalist Church of New York City, on West Eleventh Street. He remained there until June 1, 1887, when he accepted a call to Brattleborough,

Vt., to one of the largest churches in the denomination.¹ August 15, 1877, he married Maria Louise Poole, of Philadelphia, by whom he has had three daughters, Helen Louise, Adelaide Poole, and Florence Sweet Illman.

Rev. Hiram A. Philbrook succeeded Mr. Illman as pastor of this church. He was born in Bradford, Vt., in October, 1834. He was educated at Green Mountain Institute and finished with the divinity course at Tufts College. His first charge was at Calais, Maine, and he remained there thirteen years, with the exception of some time spent in the army, where he served as captain in the Eighth Maine Regiment. After leaving Calais he was over a church in Nashua, N. H., then in Pawtucket, R. I., and still later in Rockland, Maine. He commenced his ministerial labors in this town September 14, 1884, and a month later, on October 28, the ground was broken for the foundation of the new church building.

In 1858 Mr. Philbrook married Louisa King, of Claremont, N. H. They have two daughters, Laura Mary and Maria Philbrook. He resigned in 1888, to take charge of a church in Boston.

The cornerstone of the new church building was laid December 11, 1884, with appropriate ceremonies, and the vestry was completed and ready for occupancy in July, 1885. The remainder of the work was rapidly pushed forward, and the main audience room was finished and occupied for the first time on November 15, 1885. The building committee early appointed were J. Lyman Sweet, chairman, Rev. Mr. Illman (his place subsequently being occupied by Rev. Mr. Philbrook), W. R. Cobb, the late Charles E. Hayward, L. J. Lamb, and E. O. Richardson. Each and all of these gentlemen were most faithful and efficient, as the result testifies.

The church is of Queen Anne style and very pretty both in design and finish. The audience room has a seating capacity of three hundred and twenty-five, and the Sunday-school room below seats two hundred. There are also parlors, kitchen, etc., conveniently and appropriately arranged, according to the requirements of the present day. The pulpit furniture was presented to the society by Mr. Charles F. Lamb, of Waltham, a former parishioner of Mr. Philbrook, the communion table by Mr. N. J. Smith, and the chandelier by Mr. R. F. Simmons, of this town.

It was at first proposed to build a chapel only, at a cost of perhaps \$5,000 or \$6,000, but it was finally decided to have a church, though that meant a far larger outlay. The present building with the land has cost \$16,000; and the end aimed at, a paid for church, has not been attained without great effort and even personal sacrifice on the part of many of the people. Large sums of money have been contributed by a few, notably by Mr. Hayward, Mr. Sweet, and Mr. Lamb, and many others have given of time and money proportionally perhaps as generously as they. Though a great work had been

¹ At the present time (1897) Mr. Lamb is pastor of the Universalist church at Concord, N. H.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH (ROMAN CATHOLIC).

St. Mary's Parish dates back nearly forty years, to 1850, during which year it was organized by Rev. Joseph McNamee, of Pawtucket, R. I. There were very few Roman Catholics in the district at that time, but a sufficient sum of money to purchase a lot of land was raised by subscription. The only obtainable lot was the rocky spot on the main road between the Falls and North Attleborough, just west of the elevation called "Peck's Mountain." In 1852 Father McNamee died, and Rev. P. G. Delany, also of Pawtucket, had charge of the people of this faith in town for the following two years. His successor was the Rev. Philip Gillick, of Greenville, R. I. He continued his residence in that place, but he devoted the larger portion of his time to this parish, and under his administration more active work was commenced and much was accomplished.

Up to 1857 the religious services had been conducted in private houses or in Barden's Hall, but during that year a church was built on the site previously purchased. This was a plain, inexpensive structure, but it answered the actual needs of the people at that time and for some years. At the time the church was built Father Gillick took up his residence in North Attleborough, living in various places there and for a time even in the basement of the church, until finally he built himself a house by the side of the church. He did a great and arduous work, for, besides accomplishing much in this town, "he built or purchased places of worship in Franklin, Wrentham, Walpole, Foxboro', and Mansfield, all of which he attended to regularly until advancing years and increasing numbers of Catholics obliged him to seek the assistance of another priest." He had, in all, three assistants, the Rev. Fathers Conaty, Foley, and Ryan. In 1871, on account of his advanced age and feeble health, Father Gillick resigned "the post he had so long, so ably, and so well filled," giving it into the hands of the Right Rev. T. F. Hendricken, Bishop of Providence. It was in February, 1871, that Father Gillick ceased his active labors here, and he removed to the State of New York, where he died on the 10th of the following May.

He was immediately succeeded by the Rev. Edward J. Mongan, and his first assistants were Rev. Andrew Brady and Rev. P. F. Doyle. Father Mongan is still the incumbent of St. Mary's parish, and the present assistant is Rev. John T. Lynch (1887).¹ He has worked zealously and successfully during the fourteen years of his administration. A debt resting upon the church when he came here has been paid off, and the parish has been in a very prosperous condition. At the time he came here the church had far outgrown its accommodations, and in 1877 the present site and buildings

¹ Since the above was written Father Mongan's assistant has been removed. The work in Mansfield having so increased as to require a resident pastor, he ceased his labors there and confined himself to the requirements of his own special parish in North Attleborough.

were purchased. These were the old Felt property on Washington Street. Now, Athol-square has dwelling well known to the people of the town as the "Round House."

This house is occupied as a residence by the attending priest, and the stone barn has been renovated and converted into a place of worship. About \$25,000 was the price of this property, and as the value from the time the church took possession it was entirely paid for. In addition the building fund for a new church edifice already amounts to \$10,000. There are from eight to nine hundred members of this church and parish and the congregation at the regular services averages from six to seven hundred. The Sunday-school numbers two hundred. There is here an American organization under the guardianship of the church, called the Catholic Foremost Association, with membership 500 members. Besides attending to his regular parish, Father Mongan has charge of the seque of the church at Mansfield (see note).

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH AND PARISH.

In 1881 the portion of St. Mary's parish comprised in the east part of the town was set apart by Bishop Hendricken and organized by him as St. John's parish. For some time previous to this date it having become more difficult for the people of the East village to attend church on account of the removal from the Falls to North Attleborough, Father Mongan had regularly celebrated mass in Duff's or Unity Hall. The first person appointed as the new parish was the Rev. John J. O'Connell, then curate of the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Providence. He came January 6, 1882, and still remains in charge.

Services were continued in Unity Hall up to December, 1883, but the people had for some time been desirous of having a more suitable place. At the time the people were organized with a committee of men, and already some collected with that object in view, and work was at once commenced. Land was purchased on North Main Street of the family of the late F. D. Bliss, including the house standing thereon and now used as the priest's residence.

The cornerstone of the new edifice was laid September 17, 1883, the sermon being delivered by the Rev. J. C. Walcott of the Holy Communion Church, Providence. Priests and people were numerous and present, and the work of building went rapidly and vigorously on toward completion. The church is one hundred and ten feet long, fifty feet wide, and built after the Gothic style. It is a handsome structure and ranks as a whole a fine edifice. The lofty spire is an especially noticeable feature, and the top of its surmounting cross reaches to the height of one hundred and thirty-eight and a half feet from the ground. The auditorium is of excellent proportions, finished and

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furnished well, the style of finish used in the roof being particularly pleasing. The colors used in the decoration are soft and agreeable to the eye, and the stained glass windows add much to the general effect of the entire room, which is harmonious and in good taste. The beautiful window over the high altar is the gift of Rev. James Murphy, of St. Teresa's Church, Providence, and represents the patron saint of this church. The side windows are also gifts from various members of the church. The high altar was presented by the congregation, and the side altars by friends of the parish. A large organ occupies the choir gallery, which is over the vestibule, and the only gallery in the church. The Sunday-school room or vestry, a large room, occupies the basement of the building. The church seats seven hundred people. The members number six hundred, and the average attendance at mass is four hundred. The Sunday-school numbers one hundred and twenty-five. The entire property is valued at \$25,000.¹

The dedication took place September 22, 1885, the Right Rev. Bishop Hendricken conducting the services, which were very imposing and impressive.

Father O'Connell has accomplished much since he entered upon the work of this parish, and he has not only endeared himself to his own people, but has gained the respect of the community by his courteous and friendly bearing towards those with whom he has in various ways, both public and private, come in contact.

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH.

The energy of Father Mongan was not satisfied even when he had thoroughly established a church in the East village, and he turned his attention to another portion of the town. At least ten or twelve years ago he commenced holding services in Dodgeville. For many years a large proportion of the people residing in the villages of Dodgeville and Hebronville have been foreigners, they having almost entirely superseded natives in mill work. Very many of these inhabitants are French Canadians or of that extraction and were born and bred in the Roman Catholic faith. As their numbers increased they needed more and more attention and at length a church and pastor of their own.

We have not been able to ascertain the exact date, but about eight or ten years ago (1877-78) a church was built and called St. Stephen's. It stands on the road between the two villages and at no great distance from either.

The congregation numbers about six hundred, and there are three hundred and fifty communicants, fully two-thirds of whom are French Canadians and the remainder probably chiefly Irish. There are about eight marriages and thirty baptisms annually, and about thirty persons in the parish have taken the pledge of total abstinence.

¹ A lot opposite the church was purchased by Mr. P. M. Carpenter, and a commodious and pretty rectory was built upon it, which was finished during 1891. The cost was some \$6,000.

The pastoral and principal charge is the Rev. Patrick S. McGee, formerly of Canada.

There have been various religious societies which have held meetings in town at different times, continuing in some instances for quite a long period and having considerable numbers of attendants. These meetings have been held in halls or small rooms hired for the purpose, none of the organizations having attached sufficient resources to enable them to own buildings for themselves. Among these may be mentioned the Mission of Glad Tidings, in existence for quite a period and holding its regular services in a hall on North Main Street, Attleborough. Episcopal services were held for some time in the same village under the care of Rev. Mr. Osmond. Now the society called All Saints' Mission has a pastor of its own, Rev. I. T. Beards. A Congregational church has recently been formed in North Attleborough, calling itself Trinity Congregational Church, of which the pastor is Rev. E. L. Warner.

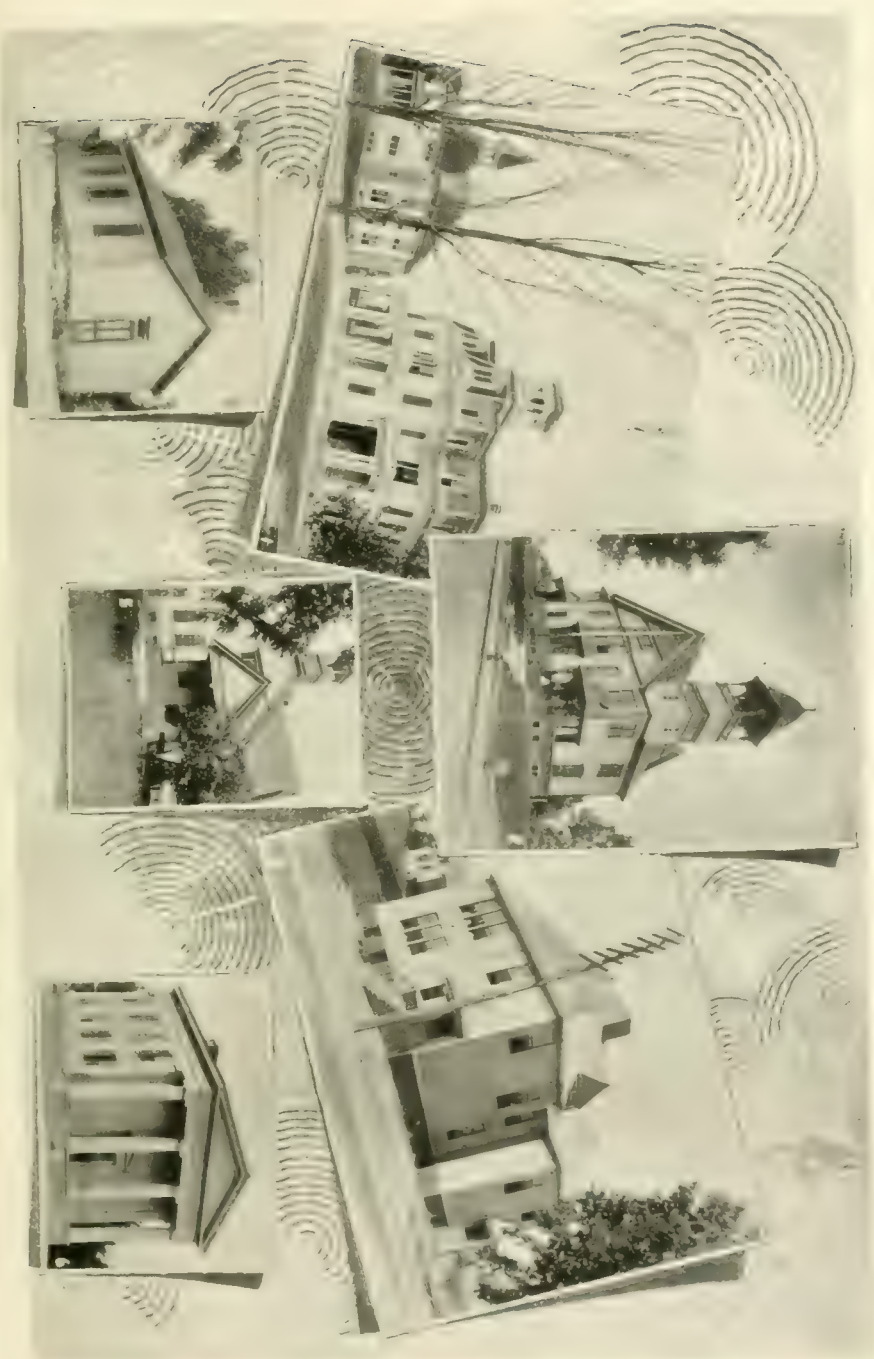
About 1870 the American Millennial Association, of Providence, R. I., bought some land in the extreme southern portion of the town and every year since that time have held camp-meetings there for people of their peculiar beliefs. Among the prominent men connected with the association in various places and leaders in these meetings may be mentioned Elmer Leonard Olson, Father Shippey, as he was called, Rev. Cyrus Cunningham, from the West, J. Perkins, of Newburyport, this State, J. Orrick, Mr. Bandy, Josiah Latta, J. L. Litch, Robert Knowles, and a Mr. Stewart, of Franklin, Mass., who is treasurer of the association. Of the several leaders in organizing these camp-meetings, Elder Olson is the only one now living.

The grounds consist of a pretty grove lying on the south side of the road which runs from the road between Dodgeville and Hebronville to Briggsville, just east of the Boston and Providence railroad. The original purchase was five acres, since increased to ten. There are at the present time (1893) some sixty cottages on the grounds, and the place has come to be in a small way quite a summer resort. A keeper resides there all the year through, and the owners occupy their cottages during the summer months, certain trains stopping at the railroad crossing to accommodate some of the gentlemen who do business in Providence.

The *Adventist* generally hold their camp-meetings some time during August, though it has been held as early as June and as late as September. Their services continue for ten days. There are representatives of associations from many parts of the country, some of the Middle and Western States, and from Canada, though the greater number are from New England.

For four years Methodists of the vicinity have held camp-meetings continuing ten days, and for two years the society of Christian Workers have had meetings which have continued ten days. These services attract large numbers of people from the surrounding country in all directions.

1. Sanford Street Schoolhouse.
2. North Attleborough High School Building.
3. Attleborough Falls Schoolhouse.
4. Turnpike Schoolhouse.
5. South Attleborough Schoolhouse.
6. Attleborough Academy Building.



CHAPTER XI.

SCHOOLS.

OUR New England pioneer settlers were in many respects like all others. They had first of all to fell the trees of the forests and to build for themselves habitations, then they had to subdue the land and compel it to furnish the means of subsistence; but the ideas of our forefathers went further and higher than simply to supply themselves with shelter and food. All those things they left behind them in abundance; but they came here to found free institutions, and their commonwealth must be built upon a basis both religious and intelligent.

At one of the first meetings of the proprietors of Rehoboth, or the "plantores of Seacunk," held probably within a few months of the settlement of that town, it was voted "that the meeting house shall stand in the midst of the town," and very early the schoolmaster's lot was set apart. This was usually near the meetinghouse lot. The church and the school stood side by side.

November 13, 1677, at a town meeting it was voted "that Daniel Smith should write to the young gentleman at Dorchester, to signify to him, that it was the town's desire that he would be pleased to come up and teach a school according to those former invitations that our Reverend Pastor made to him."

May 18, 1680, the town was notified by the selectmen that one Mr. Edward Howard had engaged to teach school, and his terms were "twenty pounds a year in country pay, and his diet, besides what the court doth allow in that case"; and the following year the selectmen were directed to "endeavor the utmost to re-engage Mr. Howard to keep the school another year." In December, 1683, the selectmen "did fully agree" with a Mr. Taylor to keep school for one year, his pay to be "£5. in money, £10. as money, and his diet."

In October, 1698, it was voted "that a school-master, as the law directs, should be attained," and when the selectmen had procured one they were to "agree with him, for his encouragement to keep school." At this time the schoolhouse had to be repaired "and made fit for to keep school in." There seems to be no mention of the date of its construction.

March 15, 1699, the selectmen made an agreement with Thomas Robinson, of this town, to keep a reading and writing school for the term of three months, "to begin the first or second week in April, at the farthest," and for his labor "he is to have three pounds, half in silver money, the one half of

it being but but kept half the term, and the other half which has expired is expired. The last part of the pay is unpaid and to be made."

Up to this time it is remembered that "Agas only had had the benefit of public instruction, and in December of this year 1678 "the selectmen agreed with Mr. Richard Dummer to keep school in Rehoboth for one month," being engaged to do the utmost endeavor "to teach both some of letters and grammar and English, and write and cast accounts. In consideration of said services, the said selectmen, in the town's behalf, do engage to pay Mr. Dummer presently, one half thirteen pence, and the other half in good merchandise, at the request and merchandise price. The month to be continued at the meeting place, of Samuel Wadsworth Sergeant. Before next's year." All these votes were in accordance with the law of 1647, providing for the taxing of the people of the towns for the support of free public schools, to which every child might have access, — the first legislative act in the world affording free public instruction, through a general taxation of all the people, to the children of all the people."

In 1708 the course of study was enlarged, the schoolmaster then "agreeing to instruct in reading, writing, grammar, and arithmetic." Early in the year 1712 it was "voted to raise thirty pounds annually, for the support of schools." One "Attleborough" was to have ten pounds, and "to be obliged to maintain an English school," and other portions of the town were to have "the remaining twenty pounds, and be obliged to maintain a grammar school."

At a later time there was an establishment of a school in the Attleborough; therefore those of our town, if indeed there were any, must have been identified with or included in those of Rehoboth. The first records found on our books are for 1716, over twenty years after the incorporation of the town. On March 20th of that year, at three o'clock, being the anniversary of that inhabitants of Attleborough, it was voted and agreed upon that Deacon Daggett should be schoolmaster." Later in the year this record is found: "At a town-meeting Lawfully warned the 17th of December, 1716, for to Consider and Resolve what they will do with Respect to the Hiring of A School-master and see whether they accept of Mr. Josiah Jacques as school-master on any of those terms Mr. Freeman has agreed for him, the said Jacques, it was voted to hire Mr. Jacques of Mr. Freeman for one year for a School-master, and to pay Mr. Freeman twenty pounds in current money of this province, or proportionally for less time, if he should not stay so long." This man of whom the town hired the schoolmaster was Mr. David Freeman, who lived near the South Attleborough cemetery; therefore there seems to be no doubt that our first schools were kept in that part of the town. At this time there were no school buildings here, and for almost a hundred years the scholars were kept in the houses of different individuals.

For the year 1717 one Thomas Catheart, of Martha's Vineyard, was the town schoolmaster, his salary being thirty pounds. The closing words of his receipt for this salary leave no doubt as to his reception of the money or its full equivalent: "I say received by me, Thomas Catheart."

At this time Attleborough included the Gore, now Cumberland, R. I., and the population did not probably exceed five hundred people. This territory was all one district, and only one school was kept, as may be proved by the early records, where the *school* and the *schoolmaster* are invariably mentioned.

Under date December 5, 1718, is found the following record: "The meeting then held to consider what may be done respecting the school, to see where the town will place it: whether by a committee that may then and there be chosen to manage that affair, or any other way that may be thought proper. The Town voted and agreed that ye school should be kept seven months in one quarter of ye Town at a time, and that Quarter shall have power to place the school as they shall think most proper and convenient." At this time a committee of the five following men was appointed to make a division of the town into four quarters: namely, H. Peck, Ensign Whipple, Ensign Read, John Lovell, and Samuel Day. It was part of the duty of this committee to order the quarter in which the school should first be kept, which should follow, and so on until each quarter had had its proportionate seven months of schooling. No records are extant of any reports from this committee, and for about twenty years succeeding this date it is probable that "the method of public instruction" remained about the same.

In 1737 there was a division of the town into four *districts*, or quarters, "Northeast and Southeast, Northwest and Southwest."

On the records are found orders on the town treasurer showing that George Allen held the position of schoolmaster in 1724-26-28 and 1732, and he was paid from thirty to fifty pounds a year. These salaries were always or nearly always exclusive of "diet," and the inference is that the teacher was also entitled to conveyance to and from the school when necessary, as Mr. Ebenezer Tiler was several times paid by the town for "horse hire going to fetch ye schoolmaster." Sometimes in the earliest days the records show that persons offered to be responsible for the teacher's maintenance for a certain portion of the year; but later this matter was more frequently adjusted at town meeting, the warrants for the meetings stating that one of the questions to be decided by the town was "to see if they will do anything towards boarding the schoolmaster."

The records do not show what studies were pursued, as sometimes is the case in those of Rehoboth; but it is natural to suppose that they were, as in that town at first, the elementary ones of reading, writing, and arithmetic, or "casting accounts," and those only.

During some years there was no school at all, such being the case in 1735 and 1736. The record states: "In ye first place, it was put to vote to see

whether the town will are 1.5 miles, and the 2.0 passed in the negative. But whether this decision was from a temporary lack of interest or hatred facts have not appeared, no reasons or explanations being given. The teachers at this time, as far as known, were John Gentry, Benjamin Lee and John Robinson, Jr. The latter was evidently a prominent man as his position as he held the office of town clerk had been such several years."

In 1744, the Legislature passed an act "authorizing the division of towns into school districts," and those towns which numbered fifty families were compelled by this act to provide for proper instruction in all the English branches, and those which numbered a hundred families must add to these, instruction in Latin and Greek.

The records for the following year, 1745, show that progress had been made in this town. "At a town meeting lawfully warned and held ye 14th day of January, 1745, voted to choose a committee to divide the town into five parts and the Gore to be one part. Voted also that the school be kept in two places, six months each in each part, during the next two years and six months." In the words of another: "This committee made the division and named the houses where the school should be kept. This was the first step towards the district system, though its inception was still in the future. By this plan the school 'ambulated' from quarter to quarter, and house to house, and when one quarter had had its six months' schooling — three months in each of the two places — it waited two years and six months before its turn came to return to the front of knowledge."

Besides this new arrangement of districts another change of importance occurred at this time. "A new impetus" was given to the cause of education in our midst, though its source cannot now be traced. It would certainly be very interesting to know what person or persons first suggested the new departure. The records say that the warrant for the above-mentioned meeting to divide this town into five parts was issued: "To wit: If the town will vote any money to be expended in keeping women schools." That so important an innovation might have due consideration, the article was laid over to the next meeting, when it was voted to have "one of the selectmen money, "to encourage ye keeping of women schools." Whether this appropriation was put to immediate use cannot now be ascertained. It was more than twenty years after schools were started in Rehoboth that they were, according to the records, open to children of both sexes; in our town it was almost thirty years before girls were admitted to the privileges of public education, and it would seem that at first they had separate schools. In Rehoboth the same teacher agreed to teach both boys and girls; here the distinct appropriation would seem to indicate a distinct school for "women." What the ideas of our forefathers really were on this question must be left to conjecture. Perhaps they deemed women in general incapable of learning

or regarded "reading, writing and ciphering," as accomplishments and unnecessary to the right performance of their then, in some senses, rather limited duties. Certainly the *pleasures* to be derived from education would not enter into the discussions or decisions of the stern men of those rigid and exacting times; but, whatever their ideas or motives, they determined to try the experiment. They could scarcely have foreseen the consequences of such a step or have realized to what it would lead; for had this been possible they might have been appalled at the effects produced by the now extensive higher education of women and have withheld their favorable vote for the initial departure in that direction.

We who read the history of this movement backwards can see that it was sure to come, and we have reason to be proud and grateful that it was left to our own time, "the enlightened nineteenth century," and conspicuously to our own land, to interpret in its highest sense the name first given to woman, by planting schools and colleges where she may be prepared for her proper position in life as the helpmeet for man to-day. Against great opposition, rational public opinion seems finally to have accepted and set its seal of approval upon the idea that the liberal education of women is, or is destined to be, a benefit, not an injury, and that the better the courses of instruction given them in almost all departments of knowledge, the better are they fitted to act well their part and to fulfil the duties of their sphere in life, whether that word "sphere" is considered in its narrowest or widest sense, according to the standard of yesterday or to-day. The results of the equal education of men and women have already been stupendous, and the possible consequences for good no one can calculate. Our town has kept pace step by step with other towns in the coeducation of her children. It would be of great interest to ascertain what was the cause of the change in public opinion here, and we can but deeply regret that the records upon the subject are so meagre and unsatisfactory.

For several years after the changes mentioned but little can be found upon the town books relating in any way to schools, and during some years no appropriations were made, or at least no records of any were made. In 1771 it is recorded that in the east part of the town there was "one week's additional schooling," no reason for the addition being mentioned. About this time the item of "diet" disappears or rather ceases to be decided by the town separately, the salary of the teachers being doubtless sufficiently increased to include that item, and they allowed to attend to the matter on their own account. A vote taken by the town in November of the year 1771 shows "that increased facilities for educational advantages were required," the natural consequence of increased population and increased amounts of territory occupied.

It was voted at that time to choose a committee "to divide the town into twelve parts, and appoint the places where the school shall be kept." The

strong popular opposition to it, chiefly on the ground that as the town raised the money it should retain the right and power to see to its appropriations and expenditures and not leave this to the discretion of irresponsible districts. This opposition continued for some time. Under a later law it was left to the discretion of the town to appoint a committee to make appraisals of district property, and it was the commendable practice of some towns to select a committee for that purpose from adjoining towns to insure impartiality. Now by the enactment of other laws these matters are again voted by the town. This town did not immediately carry the new law into effect.

March 17, 1789. "Voted to choose a committee to divide the town into twenty quarters for schooling." The committee numbered thirteen. March 13, just previous, is found the following entry: "This may certify that William May is appointed by the selectmen to keep a *Grammar* school in the town of Attleborough. Ebenezer Tyler, Town Clerk."

In 1808 the town fully complied with the above law, chose a committee and divided the territory into eighteen districts, and the committee's report, exactly and carefully describing their "metes and bounds," is copied verbatim on the town records over the names of the committee.

It is probable there were no schoolhouses up to 1804, as the records make no mention of any previous to that time. In that year the town gave the districts authority to raise money and build houses, "to select a spot where to build and to act upon any other matter that may be deemed beneficial to said districts, and not contrary to law." The district of Oldtown seems to have been the first to act upon this privilege granted by the town, and the Falls was next in order to take the necessary steps towards a building, by virtue of a warrant signed by the selectmen. After 1808 all the districts at different times received similar authority. For over twenty years the town elected the prudential committees, who received and expended the appropriation moneys and also made the arrangements with the teachers. Committees were also chosen by the town, one or two from each district, "to view and inspect the schools," but reports of their work are not extant.

It was in the year 1804 that a committee was first chosen to decide upon and select textbooks to be used in common in all the schools. The gentlemen composing this committee were Rev. John Wilder, Rev. Nathan Holman, Rev. James Read, Ebenezer Bacon, John Richardson, Jr., Dr. William Blanding, Joel Read, Elijah Ingraham, and Peter Thacher, and the majority of them were reelected several times.

In 1789, as before stated, the first mention is made of the school money having been divided per capita, but the amount is not given. The numbering was generally done about November 1 each year. In 1798 the sum allowed to each child was determined by town vote to be fifty-eight cents; in 1801 this sum had increased to seventy-five cents, and in 1807 to one dollar per

could, which was continued to be the custom several years. The year 1810 was the only exception to the general rule, so that for some years but half of the newspaper was equally distributed between the districts, and the other half according to the number of scholars. The system of money distributed by the township in the matter of books of schooling is not known.

During the next few years there were not much changes of any kind. About 1820 it was voted that the practical commissioners should be elected in each district, instead of by the town, as had been the case previously. November 1, 1829, it was voted to appropriate the school money by dividing it among the several districts in the manner following, to wit, all districts numbering 50 scholars and upwards shall be intitled to one dollar each; otherwise those districts if any they be numbering less than 50 shall be intitled to two cents in addition to the dollar in the same proportion as the number falls short of 50. Example, a district containing 33 scholars, draws \$1.66.

April 2, 1838, it was voted to make the superintending school committee a reasonable compensation for services. Up to this time probably those services had been gratuitous. The same year it was voted that the Massachusetts School Fund should be appropriated as was other school money. The Revised Statutes, Chap. 11, Sect. 13, provide that all moneys and stocks in the treasury on the first day of Jan. 1835, which shall have been derived from sales of the Commonwealth lands in the state of Maine, and from the sale of the Commonwealth to the government of the United States for military services, and which shall not be otherwise appropriated, together with one half of the moneys thereafter received from the sale of the lands in Maine, shall constitute a permanent fund, to be called the Mass. School Fund, for the encouragement of common schools, provided, that said sum shall never exceed one million dollars." These lands were a part of the domain of this State when Maine was a portion of it, and the title remained vested in the Commonwealth after Maine became a separate State. The military claims were those made by this State upon the United States government, for expenses incurred in calling the militia into service in defence of the country during the War of 1812. The original claim was for \$800,000. This was created and paid with a conflict of authority between the State and Federal governments because Massachusetts did not fully comply with all the requisitions and did not place the militia furnished under full control of a military officer of the United States. For some years only a portion of the claim was paid to the State. The fund is placed in the hands of the secretary and treasurer of the Board of Education as commissioners, and new investments must be made with the governor's approval. The income only is to be used for the benefit of the schools, and is to be distributed in the following manner:

1830-1831 : —

One-half of the annual income of the fund shall be appropriated and distributed without a specific appropriation for the support of public schools, and in the manner following, to wit, every town complying with all laws in force, relating to the distribution of said income, and whose valuation of real and personal estate, as shown by the last returns thereof, does not exceed one million dollars, shall annually receive two hundred dollars; every such town, whose valuation is more than one million, and does not exceed three million dollars, shall receive one hundred and fifty dollars; and every such town, whose valuation is more than three million, and does not exceed five million dollars, shall receive one hundred dollars. The remainder of said half shall be distributed to all the cities and towns whose valuation does not exceed ten million dollars, in proportion to the number of persons between five and fifteen years of age belonging to each. All money appropriated for other educational purposes, unless otherwise specially provided, shall be paid from the other half of said income. If the income in any year exceeds such appropriations, the surplus shall be added to the principal of said fund.

Towns which do not maintain at least one high school and who do not raise by taxation at least three dollars per capita for the children between five and fifteen receive no apportionment from this fund. It is provided that the school committees of the various cities and towns shall receive and apply the portion of this income accruing to them to the benefit of the schools, and that they may, if they so deem best, appropriate any sum not exceeding twenty-five per cent. of the amount received for books of reference, maps, and apparatus for the use of the said schools. The valuation of this town for 1887 exceeded \$6,000,000. The appropriation must therefore be according to the number of children between five and fifteen years of age. The amount is not far from \$100.

From 1838 till 1850 school affairs seem to have run on smoothly in their fixed groove, but in the latter year there were incendiary fires at several of the schoolhouses. The selectmen offered a reward of \$500 for the apprehension of the criminals, and the town resolved itself into a "committee of the whole," for the protection of property. There is no record that the reward was claimed, that any person was arrested, or that there was any further trouble of a similar nature.

The following report of the school committee for 1845 was found among the author's papers. It is presented entire, not only because as coming from his pen it will give pleasure to some readers, but because of some facts and statistics contained in it, which will interest those concerned in the progress of the cause of public schools in the town and the State:—

During the past year the schools in this town have generally been prosperous, and useful; and have contributed in some degree in educating the youth of the town in knowledge and virtue; in making one step in advance in that long path of improvement in education, so much of which remains unattained. In saying thus much in their favor, we do not intend to convey the impression, that we should rest satisfied with the condition to which they have already attained. They are far from what they ought to be and might be. There is no institution, planted here by our fathers, which is susceptible of such indefinite improvement as our common school system. There is no conceivable end to its advancement. There are some institutions of human origin which seem to reach their maturity at once, and ever after to remain stationary. But here is a most useful and excellent system of education intended to enlighten the whole people, in which the most expanded benevolence may have room for an unlimited exercise of its powers. In improving the means of universal instruction philanthropy may

public opinion and law, both favor the cause, what must it be in those states where no public provision has been made for the education of youth!

The greatest glory of a Republic is the general diffusion of useful knowledge among its citizens. Their national renown should consist—not in military victories and conquests, but in the intellectual pre-eminence of the people.

If the people of this country wish to preserve and perpetuate their civil rights and Republican form of government, and transmit them for the enjoyment of future ages, they must insure it by giving a liberal and constant support to our common schools. As our schools are intended as nurseries for those who are to take the control of public affairs, nurseries where the great majority of the people obtain the only means of education which they ever enjoy, we think it obvious, that the instruction given in them should be adapted to their situation and duties in society, not only in the common branches which will fit them for the ordinary business of life, but also in such studies as will qualify them for the responsible duties which they have to perform as members of civil society. Boys of a suitable age should be instructed in a knowledge of the State and National Constitutions, and in the general principles of the government, and in the civil history of the country.

It should be one great object of our gov't and people to extend to all the blessings of education. This is the great mission of a free people. Let us in this respect present a contrast with the monarchies of the old world. Let it be our great object to form *men*. Let the old world have their splendid palaces, their sublime cathedrals,—their courtly retinues, their titles of nobility, and all the pomp and pageantry which attach to Royalty,—let them have their standing armies and their bloody battlefields—but give us the fruits of peace, universal education, the emancipation of mind, the freedom of the soul. Let them display their wealth accumulated for ages, where the intellects of the many poor are darkened and enslaved in the midst of the luxuries and the grandeur of the noble few. When the enlightened traveller comes from other lands to examine the condition of our country, and inquires for the monuments of our national renown and exploits, we would be able to point him to our colleges and academies, and our free schools scattered all over the land, where the minds of all can have free access to the fountains of knowledge,—as the best exhibition of our national character and the proudest monuments of our national glory. We would point him, not to our great and populous cities where vice enervates—(not to our accumulated wealth—) but to the millions of *minds* which we have enlightened and improved and blessed by the means of education.

Per order of the Committee

Attleborough, April 7, 1845.

J. DAGGETT, *Sec'y*.

April 7, 1851, the matter of a high school came before the town and was referred to the following committee of six gentlemen: Rev. Joseph S. Dennis, Lyman W. Daggett, Caleb M. Paine, Dr. Phineas Saxey, A. M. Ide, and Rev. Jonathan Crane. The school rates had by this time largely increased, for at the above-mentioned meeting it was voted to raise \$4.50 per scholar and apportion it as had previously been done. On November 24 the high school committee made a report in which they suggested the advisability of at once establishing high schools, agreeably to the law which demands the maintenance in towns of at least one school "whose teachers shall be qualified to instruct in the history of the United States, bookkeeping, surveying, geometry, algebra, general history, rhetoric, logic, and the Latin and Greek languages"; or, if a central place cannot be found, two or more schools can be kept whose terms together shall equal twelve months. This not being done the town is liable by the provisions of the law to a heavy fine; namely, twice the amount ever raised in one year for schools. Three fourths of this amount would be returned, but one fourth would be

paid said the school trustees. At this time \$4,100 had been raised for school purposes by this time. The committee further recommended the establishment of three schools, one each in the east, west, and north districts to be sustained by said district, and, if other district petition, that the portion of the appropriation should be equally divided between the other two. The town at this meeting voted to establish three schools and referred the matter to the town school committee to make inquiries and arrangements and report.

No further action was taken to have had taken by the town until April 3, 1856, when the sum of \$500 was appropriated to carry out the vote of the town regarding the establishment of high schools. The committee of request had arrangements made a report describing a division of the town into three high-school districts.

A warrant dated May 7, 1856, contained the following article: "To see if the town will instruct their school committee to cause the common English version of the Bible or the New Testament of said Bible to be used in the Public Schools of this town at least once per day by all the scholars of said town, collected attendance in the opinion of the teachers to read the same." May 21 it was voted to adopt the above article.

There were further delays over the establishment of the high schools, and it was not until June 5, 1856, that action was again taken by the town in regard to them. At that time a committee of nine, three each from the east, north, and south districts, was appointed to consider, receive propositions, etc. At an adjourned meeting held June 28 this committee reported. The town accepted the report and voted to establish two instead of three high schools, one at North Attleborough and one at East Attleborough. "Voted that the sum of \$12,000 be, and the same is hereby appropriated for constructing suitable school houses, and purchasing lots to locate the same; One moiety thereof to be expended upon each building and lot." The committee at North Attleborough were Samuel J. Smith, Stephen R. Emerson, Jr., Abel Coddling, Jr.; at East Attleborough, J. C. Hidden, V. H. Capron, L. B. Carpenter. These committees met but could not agree upon locations.

In 1858 the school districts were resurveyed. There were nineteen districts and those in charge of this matter made report of some changes in the lines, which were accepted by the town.

In 1861 \$4 per scholar was appropriated and levied in the next summer. The following year it was voted to divide one seventh of the school appropriation between the districts apportioned and all scholars between the schools equally, after paying for the services of the school committee.

In 1865 the school appropriation amounted to \$5,500.

April 1, 1867. "Voted to establish two High Schools, one at East Attleborough, and one at North Attleborough, and that three thousand dollars be appropriated for their support." A committee of five was chosen to provide suitable

places and make necessary arrangements. These five were Henry Rice, F. G. Whitney, J. R. Bronson, J. W. Capron, William P. Shaw.

In 1869 the school property was taken possession of by the town and an appraisal committee appointed. Their subsequent report placed the total appraisal at \$33,230.74.

In 1872 the appropriation for schools was \$9,000. April 1, 1872, "Voted that the Dog Fund be appropriated to the use of Common Schools." In 1877 the appropriations for school purposes were "\$13,000 for Common Schools, and \$3,500 for High Schools."

Fourteen years after the establishment of the high schools by vote, building sites were finally selected. No undue haste in action had followed upon the town's decision to erect suitable buildings; time was taken to give the matter meet and proper consideration and deliberation, and finally affairs were in such condition as to admit of further action.

At a town meeting held April 4, 1881, \$25,000 were appropriated and the following named gentlemen elected a building committee: Joseph G. Barden, George N. Crandall, Charles E. Bliss, Henry Rice, Charles E. Hayward, Edward R. Price, and Rev. John Whitebill, the last named being chairman. March 20, 1882, a further appropriation of \$6,000 was made to complete the two high school buildings, and \$500 for necessary apparatus for the two schools.

By an act of Legislature approved May 12, 1882, to take effect January 1, 1883, school districts were abolished in this State. When this law took effect the towns assumed the expense of text-books, and since that time these have been furnished to the scholars free of charge, that is, for their use so long as they are required in the various grades and classes, but they remain the property of the town. In this same year, 1882, a second appraisal of the school property was made. On January 6 a nominating committee was appointed, and Handel N. Daggett, George A. Dean, George N. Crandall, Frank B. Richards, William P. Shaw, Joseph G. Barden, and Elisha G. May were proposed by them and accepted by the town to make the appraisal. These gentlemen accomplished the proposed work and made a detailed report. The total valuation was \$36,595.44.

March 17, 1884, a third appropriation of \$242.92 was made for the high school buildings, making their entire cost \$31,242.92. These buildings are in both instances pleasantly situated. The one in East Attleborough stands on the corner of Bank and Peck streets; that in North Attleborough on High Street and on more elevated ground. They are built on the same plan but have some changes in their towers, entrances, etc. They are well built and well finished both outside and in and are furnished with the appliances necessary to the proper carrying out of the course of instruction required. Each contains an especially useful and important laboratory, large school-rooms, necessary recitation rooms, anterooms, offices, etc., and they are

industrious and conscientiously adherent to the purposes for which they were constituted. They are pillars of society and society appreciably and gratefully sustained, they commenced with the month, instantaneous linkings of soul with soul. There are three excellent sources of story passed in these schools, the Swedish, the Swedish, and the English, the first two extending over four years, and the latter over three. They furnish a good education to those who have leisure or energy, have a better conditioned school life, and a good foundation for those in town who intend to pursue higher studies elsewhere.

Enough time and space have been given to show something of the great growth of the town in the important matter of general education, and some idea may be obtained of the proportion of the work of the school committee had to perform. Not only had the increase both in the number of schools and scholars added materially to their labors, but the additional required year by year in the direction of instructions to be given and improvements to be made in the course of study pursued and the places where they were to be pursued had also constantly augmented the demands upon their time. It was possible however that the work of a school committee must always be a slow process, "distinct" in its nature, especially in a town as large as ours had come to be. Its members could not separately become thoroughly conversant with the workings of every school in detail, including the performance of the other duties devolving upon them, without devoting their entire time to the business. The need of a superintendent of schools had become obviously great, and in their report for the year 1882 the school committee wisely recommended the town to make an appropriation for that purpose, for, as they considered, such an officer was indispensable "to the highest welfare of our schools."

The town acted upon this suggestion, and at its annual meeting, March 19, 1883, made the necessary appropriation. In May following a superintendent assumed the duties of this office.

It having come to the ears of the present (1887) incumbent, Mr. Mason, that it had been a matter of conjecture and comment among some people what could engage a superintendent's time, he in his report for the year ending February 28, 1888, enumerated the following worthy a few of the items that engage such an officer's attention. — Upon the free text-book system much time is taken in the purchase and distribution of the supplies. He must buy everything needed in the schools, from shoe-pegs for the primary teachers to the high schools, considering, of course, the question of price, quality, and suitability. Ink must be carried to this school, a broom to that, and books to another. Good teachers to fill vacancies must be hunted up, requiring much time and the writing of innumerable letters. The schools must be frequently visited, and the work examined. Truancy must be investigated, cases of discipline considered, misunderstandings between parents and teachers, occasionally serious, satisfactorily settled, pupils classified and

promoted or degraded, uniform examinations prepared, teachers advised and directed, changes in the system considered, text-books examined, teachers' meetings and grade meetings held, and regular office hours observed at each village two days in the week. Having done all these things, and by personal inspection informed himself of the wise, faithful and full execution of the school system, he must in his spare moments acquaint himself with the school system in other towns and cities, and with advancement in educational matters in the world at large, that he may improve his own system." The superintendent further states that in the discharge of some of the duties thus enumerated he had, during a little more than five months prior to his report, made five hundred and sixty-three calls at the different schoolrooms and ridden on an average nine miles a day. The question might better be not "What does he have to do?" but "How can he do so much?"

In 1884 it was voted to expend \$20,000 on enlarging and repairing school buildings; \$27,000 was the appropriation for the schools, \$2,000 for incidental educational expenses, and \$1,500 for text-books, stationery, etc., all of which, under the present system, are supplied at public expense.

In 1885 \$600 was appropriated for carrying children from outlying territories to their various schools.

Since its first appropriation for the purpose in 1872, the dog fund has continued to be used for the benefit of the schools. This is a yearly increasing fund and in 1886-87 amounted to \$1,034.67. In the same year the appropriation for schools was \$30,000; for incidental expenses, \$1,500; for text-books and supplies, \$2,500; for the conveyance of scholars, \$600; for repairs, \$3,000—a total, including the dog fund, of \$38,634.67. To this must be added the money obtained from the several school funds, to determine the entire sum at the disposal of the town and of some special portions of it for the public schools.

The records give no clew to the number of pupils in the early schools, and it is not until a recent date, 1850, that any approximation can be formed. About that time it was stated that \$4,150 had been raised for schools, and the cost per child was \$4.50. There may probably have been then some nine hundred children, with an average attendance considerably less; but no positive figures can be given, as the records furnish only the two above. For later years more exact figures can be given. In 1880 the average membership was 1,541, with a daily attendance of 1,359, and the cost of teaching per capita \$11.39.

The change from the district to the municipal system marked itself at once as advantageous, for the first report from the superintendent showed an increase of pupils and presented many encouraging features. A comparison of the figures for 1880, two years preceding the change, and those for 1885, two years succeeding, show great improvement. In those five years there was an increase in both membership and attendance of thirty-three and a third per cent, and

a decrease in the cost per pupil of thirty-one cents in 1886 and fifty-five cents in 1887. These facts speak for themselves and need no comment. This increase has been continuous. The report for the year ending February, 1887, gives the number of pupils within the reported ages as 15,416, with an average attendance of 1,891.5. There are twenty-five school buildings and 847 teachers, three of whom are males. The cost of teaching has largely increased since "in other times" and during 1887 was \$19.00 per capita, based upon the average attendance of pupils, and one dollar more per capita for text-books and supplies. These figures are on schools of thirty-eight weeks as a school year, though this varies in length from thirty-six to thirty-eight weeks according to circumstances.

A number of years ago drawing was introduced into the schools, and at the same time a special teacher was employed. Now text-books are used in this department, and the regular teachers have charge of this branch of instruction. Formerly singing was almost entirely optional with teachers, and the result was naturally irregularity and inaccuracy. The present custom of employing a regular instructor in music proves highly beneficial both in a practicable and enjoyable sense. Children are taught to read music as they are taught to read their primers and, as they advance in this direction, to assume at will the different parts of songs or choruses. This knowledge will at least give pleasure to themselves and others and in many instances may prove to be of great value. Our schools have already attained considerable proficiency in this section of their prescribed courses of study, and the yearly report of the professor of music shows continual advancement and improvement. The training in this department is left largely to the regular teachers, it being the work of the special instructors to have the oversight and direction and to instruct as to the best methods of accomplishing the desired results.

A certain amount of physical exercise is demanded in all the grades. Twice a day the pupils have a "marching or calisthenic exercise," and in some of the higher grades there is a regular drill in light gymnastics. In many of these exercises the light dumb bells used add greatly to the effect, and the "drills" are made more elaborate by musical accompaniment. This enhances the enjoyment of the pupil, rendering the exercise desirable from that point of view and helping to make it perhaps among the most serviceable in the school life. In buildings where fire escapes are necessary the children are taught to use them, going through the routine frequently. This knowledge has not fortunately thus far been put to a practical test in our town, though it has in some of our large cities and has proved of the greatest use. From constant practice children have been through their drill with mechanical precision at the teacher's command, while fire was raging near them, the regularity with which they moved preventing a panic and enabling all to escape, thus saving many lives. Much more attention is paid to the health of children in the schools than formerly. It has been proved that

well warmed, equally well ventilated, and comfortably furnished rooms, by ensuring better physical conditions, ensure consequently a higher standard of excellence in intellectual progress and development.

The North High School has had four principals : namely, Burrill Porter, Jr., from May, 1867, to July, 1879 ; Henry M. Maxson from September, 1879, to October 1, 1885 ; F. S. Hotaling from October 1, 1885, to April, 1886 ; George W. Lyman from April, 1886, to the present time (1887). This school has had seven assistants : Lucy L. Holden, Mrs. Sarah Austin, Mary I. Hineley (now Mrs. E. A. Hall), Elizabeth K. Goss (now Mrs. Albert Dodge, of Minneapolis, Minn.), Agnes Pierce (now Mrs. John D. Long), Bertha Pierce, and Mary W. Pierce. The average membership has been about fifty, and the graduates number about one hundred and seventy-five.

The East High School has had six principals : Calvin G. Hill, William Wilkins, A. F. Wood, Jr., J. Osmond Tiffany (who served thirteen years, from 1872 till May, 1885, when he resigned), J. H. Lord from May, 1885, till December, 1885, and W. C. Hobbs, who took the position in January, 1886, and still continues. The assistants have been seven in number : namely, Mrs. C. G. Hill, Emma Tonks (now wife of Rev. John Baxter, of England, and for a time a missionary in East Africa), Miss Kelton, M. C. Sheffield,¹ Miss Hawes, Annie Rice, Helen W. Metcalf, and Emma C. Lord. Miss Metcalf is now serving the second time, and Mary W. Pierce, of North Attleborough, teaches here for a stated number of hours as well as in that village. The average membership of this school has been about forty-five, and there have been probably about one hundred and fifty graduates.

The town has had three superintendents of schools : Francis E. Burnette, Andrew W. Edson, and Henry M. Maxson, who was elected October 1, 1885, and continued to serve until after the division. The instructors in music are J. H. Whittemore and his daughter, Mary E. Whittemore, who have held the position for several years. The school committee for 1887 were George E. Osgood, J. O. Tiffany, Byron R. Hill, Henry S. Kilby, George Randall, Harvey Clap, Mary A. Mathias, Lidora E. Briggs, Leda J. Thompson. These officers are elected for periods of two and three years, so a portion only of the terms expire annually. At the annual meeting of 1886 Mrs. John Wood and Miss Briggs were elected to a position on the school board, the first women in town to hold that position, and the latter received a reelection.

There are three school funds in the town, the largest of which is derived from a legacy of Abiathar Augustus Richardson, who died in 1843. The portion of his will relating to this legacy is herewith quoted. After ordering his executors to pay his debts and two bequests of household furniture and clothing, he devises as follows : —

¹ Wife of G. E. Brightman, now 1893 pastor of the Methodist Church.

There is one serious and persistent set of problems, both past and present, I suspect of no solution. I have noted that too many things are converted from cash to its equivalent in savings and are eventually sold for pennies. Hence, that I have mentioned a school, that I have said that the peasants are converted to dollars, is probably the strongest one point of evidence that the economy, which has almost total market control, with good reasons to support estate, and the market itself, really shall be seriously taken and appropriated by the new support of national power. If the economy that belongs to the Second Empire of the United States, as I have said, is the economy of the United States, I would think that it shall be seriously by the new power, including in such Third or fourth of freedom, was not to be taken over in three years, and the economy is both impossible, or more or less, and shall, more or less, may be made to such extent.

Figure 1 is a schematic representation of the Design Experiments. A treatment to be the outcome of the (not yet fully) first treatment (say a genetic marker-based first treatment) can be the result of one of two trials.

W. J. H. J. van der
Linden, D. J. G. M.
Huisman, C. J. A.,
J. H. J. van der

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The provisions of the Order limit the number of times a school district superintendent may serve in the office, but do not prohibit a superintendent from serving successive terms. School district boundaries are limited within the present territorial limits of the several counties, as defined in law, and will be changed following the 1910 Census. It is not possible that any superintendent could serve two terms of an School District and then, after the passage of the law, be appointed to the superintendency of another county until the next year in the case of Allen, Mead and Perry counties, or until the end of the term of the superintendent of a county in the case of Teton, Blaine and Park counties. However, it is possible that a superintendent of a county may be appointed to the superintendency of another county should it ever become necessary in view of sickness and death, or that one Teton county superintendent may be transferred to another county, or that a School District superintendent may be transferred to another School District. Such a transfer is discontinued by the provisions of the law. However, it is not possible that a superintendent of a county be appointed to the superintendency of another county in the present year, but may become so appointed in a subsequent year.

[illegible]

January 29, 1846, John Duggett, executor, notified the standing committee of the Second Parish of his being ready to pay into the hands of the trustees, when desired, the fund resulting from the estate, it being then in his hands. March 28, it was voted by the parish to choose the following persons to act as trustees of the fund: Samuel Carpenter, John Duggett, Samuel Atwell, Isaac Lewis, Duggett, William Blandin, Seth Carpenter, Elias Fisher, Daniel Carpenter, Edmund Briggs, Noah Blandin, Ernest Fossett, Deane Fossett and Gardiner Dutton. On May 2, 1846, these twelve trustees were incorporated by Act of Legislature under the title of Trustees of the Richmond School Fund in Antislavery. They were vested with full power and authority to fill vacancies in their board, make all necessary regulations and orders for their government and the custody and management of the fund, and with power to sell their real estate and personal property. They had power to receive, accept and manage the estate of the fund, and to take charge of the income, paying it over to the schools, as directed by the will.

The corporation was empowered to appoint officers according to its by-laws, and to establish rules and regulations for the distribution of the income of the fund, "provided, the said rules, regulations and by-laws do not conflict with the purposes of said will or the laws of the Commonwealth."

At the time of Mr. Richardson's death, or when paid over to the trustees, this gift amounted to \$11,000. Since that time it has nearly doubled in value. In 1887 its value was given as \$20,250.58. It is invested, according to the tenets of the will, in real estate loans and chiefly in this town. Up to this time there has been a six per cent. interest obtained. In the more than forty years since the legacy was given there have been but two presidents of the board of trustees. John Daggett, the first appointed, held the office from 1846 till his death in 1885. The present trustees are Everett S. Horton, president; Frank I. Babcock, secretary; Charles E. Bliss, treasurer; Shephard W. Carpenter, James H. Sturdy, John Thacher, Everett S. Capron, Hartford S. Babcock, George F. Bicknell, Joseph M. Bates, William H. Smith, J. Lyman Sweet.

South Attleborough, or what was formerly District No. 8, has the benefit of a bequest made to it by "the Frenchman," Joseph A. Richaud, so long a resident there. He kept a store, made some money, and as he never married he made this district the heir to his entire little property, provided it should not be called for within six years after his death, by a nephew who was supposed to be living in France. Richaud was a deist and his will, which he himself dictated, "disavows a belief in the divinity of Christ, and the Christian religion." In this same document he declared his disbelief in Mahomet, and asserted that he had a reliance on the "only living and true God," and to him he commended his spirit. This property amounted originally to about \$700. It has probably increased, but we have not been able to ascertain exactly its present value, how it is invested, or the amount of income it yields annually.

The third fund is that of the Holmes neighborhood. This is from a legacy of Milton Holmes, which consisted of a dwelling-house, some woodland, and some money, and the fund was established in 1863. The income was used up to 1878. About that time the institutions where the money was invested ceased to pay interest, and for some time there was danger that the principal would be lost. Happily this misfortune was averted, and the money has been restored. This fund is managed by trustees. H. K. W. Allen and Joseph L. Holmes were the first appointed. The latter resigned in 1878, and A. F. Underwood was chosen to take his place. He and Mr. Allen are still in charge. The fund now (1889) amounts to about \$2,100.

FRANKLIN SCHOOL.

This appears to have been the first private school in town. On February 5, 1800, Peter Thacher, Abiathar Richardson, Gideon Sweet, Nathaniel

Caleb Richardson, Jr., and Henry Sweet were the committee chosen to draft by-laws, and these were accepted at an adjourned meeting held the "8th of November at five o'clock in the afternoon." At this same time it was "voted that the rent of the School House be at the rate of 24 Dollars per year." The officers were to rent under direction of the trustees, were to have the management of the house, keep the keys, but use their own discretion as to the length of rental; and the secretary was directed to "make a fair and impartial record of all the several meetings," etc. December 13, 1802, the first preceptor, Mr. Israel Day, Jr., was chosen, and it was voted to let the house for the purpose of singing. Mr. Day appears to be the only preceptor chosen by the trustees, but it is known that Rev. Nathan Holman had a school in this building, and Moses Thacher and Preston Cummings also taught here. They probably rented the house and obtained scholars by their own efforts. In the summer of 1803 there seems to have been a "Woman's School," and among the records for that year was a vote to pay the secretary twelve and a half cents a page for recording transfers of shares and certifying the same.

February 10, 1804, by act of Legislature the word "South" in the act of incorporation was changed to "East," because that part of the town was universally known as the "East Precinct." No other record has been noticed where the word south is used. October 14, 1805, "Voted that a singing school may be kept in said house provided that it does not interfere with the school usually kept." The following year it was mentioned that the rent was relinquished to whoever had had the building, the "Arts and Sciences" apparently not flourishing at that time. In 1815 it was voted to use the schoolhouse for conferences, if it was wanted, at one shilling a meeting, and the rent in summer seems to have been then one dollar a month. Peter Thacher was president of the organization from the commencement until 1815, when Jonathan Peck was chosen to the office, and he retained it as long as the organization had an active existence.

May 26, 1824, it was "voted that the President Secretary and Treasurer of Franklin School be empowered to lease their School house lot to the Incorporated Congregational Society in the Second Precinct in Attleboro for the term of Nine hundred and ninety nine Years for a meeting house lot the rent to be paid annually. Voted that if the aforesaid Officers do lease their lot as aforesaid they are then empowered and requested to sell their school house at Publick auction. Voted to adjourn to June 13th." The last record in the trustees' book reads as follows: "June 13th Know meeting."

This auction no doubt took place, for the building became the property of District No. 18. It was removed to South Main Street, to a spot on the west side of the road just below where the railroad now crosses it, and stood about where the small house north of the residence of Mrs. L. B. Sweet now stands. It is spoken of as a "little building, painted yellow."

It was a room furnished according to primitive notions in style and taste, and several people can recall its appearance after it became a district schoolhouse. The teacher's desk was opposite the entrance door, and was raised two or three feet above the floor, while the scholars' seats were 12 to 15 feet high, each one higher than the other, the boys' on one side, and the girls' on the other. These seats were no doubt long wooden benches like those of other school-houses in early days, and the room was heated by "the old-fashioned box stove." There was great excitement, it is said, among the children gathered here when they saw the first railroad train pass through the town, and the teacher warned them to keep their hands inside the railing lest otherwise they might be "taken off" by the cars.

Among the district teachers here were the Misses Susan and Polly Messinger, Miss Harrington, Miss Lydia Mann (sister of Horace Mann), Miss Caroline Porter (now Mrs. Harlow and living in Brooklyn, L. I.), and Mr. Lyman W. Dean. Strict attention was paid to the manners of the scholars in those early days, no girl being allowed to leave the room without making a courtesy and no boy without making a bow. Strict attention seems also to have been paid to discipline, especially to punishments, and our present deputy sheriff will perhaps recall an agonizing day there when one of the above-mentioned teachers sat by his side during the longest, soberest hour of his then short life, holding up before him her sharp-looking penknife, which he momentarily expected to be put to its threatened use of cutting off his ear. It meant something to be caught in mischief when our elders were boys; perhaps that is the reason why there was so much "fun" in it.

About 1838, when the Sweet house was built, this schoolhouse was removed to a site farther down the street, on the same side. It was purchased by a Mr. Holman Fuller and converted into a dwelling-house, and it still remains on that site. The body of the present house is the original structure, but its roof is no longer hipped; it has a wing, long, low windows, piazzas, and ornamentation enough to shock the plain, homely taste of the farmers who built it. In 1842 the house was bought by Mr. Nathan C. Luther, who occupied it for some time. Later it was owned and occupied by Mr. Joel Moore, and later still by Mr. William Thompson, who made extensive alterations and improvements. It is now owned and occupied by Captain William H. Goff. Built for the purpose of training youths in the "arts and sciences" of intellectual knowledge, it does not lose its ancient prestige by becoming the home of an excellent trainer of men in those "arts and sciences" which pertain to good soldiery.

Early in that century Massachusetts no longer kept a private school in South Attleborough, called a "Classical School," kept at one time by a Mr. Whenton, a graduate of Brown University, the only fact found regarding him. The only fact known of the school is of its existence previous to 1830, at the latter institution the present Attleborough school is held, and

one of his mates in it. It probably opened later than 1805, because previous to that time Rev. Jacob Ide came to the east village to Mr. Holman for instruction in the classics, a journey he would naturally have avoided had the necessary facilities offered themselves nearer his home. This "Classical School" probably had only a short existence.

Between 1832 and 1836 a private school was kept in North Attleborough by Miss Lurinda Forbush, daughter of the then pastor of the Baptist church. She was for some time previous to her death, which occurred a few years since, well known both throughout this State and the country as Mrs. Barrett, the faithful, devoted laborer in the temperance cause.

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH ACADEMY.

In 1833 an association was formed for the purpose of founding an academy in the north part of the town. In that year Josiah Draper, Ira Richards, B. I. and H. N. Draper, Richard Robinson, and their associates purchased a tract of land of Samuel Guild on what is now the corner of Washington and Orne Streets, and here a building was soon erected. The contractor for the mason work was John Hamilton, and for the carpenter work Samuel Guild. The building was two stories high. The entire first floor and one half of the second were used for school purposes, and the remaining part of the upper story was occupied by Bristol Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. The lodge, as may be seen from its early records, purchased some shares in this academy association and were therefore to have the use of a certain portion of its building.

The first principal of the school was Isaac Perkins, who had previously held the same position over the once famous "Day's Academy" in Wrentham. His house stood on the site now occupied by Coddington's Block. While he taught here he took pupils to board, and the house was known as the "school boarding house." He remained from the time the school opened until 1844, when he removed to Easton to take charge of a high school there. Under his administration the school here must have been in a very flourishing condition, as he sometimes had more than one assistant.

The next principal was John C. Boram, who came to the school from the East Attleborough Academy in February, 1845. His assistant was Henry F. Lane, who became the third principal in 1846 and remained some two or three years. In 1848 or 1849 Rev. J. D. Pierce succeeded him. In 1850 Mr. Pierce resigned the position and left town, having decided to resume his pastoral work, which had been laid aside for a time. He was succeeded by Henry Rice, who taught two years, and this ended the existence of the academy as an educational institution. The building remained unoccupied for several years, but not far from 1855 it was purchased by H. M. Richards, and he moved it to its present site, which is south of the former one and adjoining the Masonic Building. Mr. Henry L. Leach and others have

street numbered it on a hardware store and Hibbard & Company as a grocery store, and it had also been occupied by other parties. Though it was used for its original purpose only a few years, numerous recollections of the efforts of the present generation to its vicinity can look back to pleasant school-days passed within its walls, and among the recollections will come some, perhaps not widely extended to the cultivation of the mental and moral faculties. There was a great deal of a certain kind of physical education in the schools at the latest time, though its pursuit was not mentioned in the catalogue of studies. It, however, forced boys to some degree of a Spartan-like firmness in bearing pain and was not perhaps altogether useless in its results; and around every institution of learning there cluster memories of "fun and frolic" and of happy and joyful times the like of which never come to any one again, memories often cherished as the dearest which can be recalled in after life.

THE ACADEMY LOT.

More than fifty years ago Mr. Nathaniel W. Sanford, of New York State, bought a large amount of land on the north side of North Main Street, from near where Dean Street is to the centre of the village, or about to the site of the Open House. Not far from 1840 it would seem he must have made an offer of a gift or transfer of land under conditions to be used as the site of a building for higher educational purposes than the town schools then afforded. This was the land still known as the academy lot. In consequence of this offer an association was formed for the purpose of erecting a suitable building. The question of building in connection with the district arose, and among those chiefly interested in this matter Mr. John C. Dodge and Mr. Jonathan Bliss were resolutely opposed to such a course, while on the other hand Dr. Seba Carpenter and Mr. Amos Starkey were as decidedly in favor of joining with the district. It was finally decided, however, not to make the proposed union, but to erect a building by private subscription, the subscribers of course to become stockholders in the association. Mr. Joseph W. Capron was considerably interested in obtaining the necessary subscriptions, and Mr. John C. Dodge was among the largest contributors to this laudable enterprise. The original number of stockholders is not known, but there were 107 of 112 shares. These were sold for \$19.00 each, and the money was returned with the money. At a meeting held in January, 1842, the trustees reported that \$1,155.55 had been expended and \$1,417.05 subscribed, leaving a deficit of \$38.50. They stated that a further subscription of \$300 was necessary for the proper completion of the building, and this appears to have been granted to them by the association.

The building was completed and a school opened in 1842. It was an *elaborate* *stone* structure, two stories high with a porch in front supported Grecian columns, like so many academies and dwelling-houses of its day, and contained two large halls with an entry to each. In its palmy days it

presented quite an imposing appearance, standing as it did in a conspicuous position in the centre of ample grassy grounds elevated considerably above and some distance back from the street since named for the then owner of the land. The academy had been finished and used for its legitimate purpose nearly a year before a deed of the land was given to the association. The following extracts are from a copy of the original deed: "Know all Men by these Presents, That I Nathaniel W. Sanford, City of Brooklyn, State of New York, Merchant, in consideration of three hundred dollars to me paid by Jonathan Crane, John C. Dodge, Jonathan Bliss, Samuel Carpenter, W. Blackinton, P. Savery, O. S. Balcom, John Daggett, and J. W. Capron, Trustees of Attleborough High School, the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, do hereby give, grant, sell and convey unto the said Trustees of the Attleborough High School, or their successors in said Office, to hold in trust for the Proprietors of said High School while they maintain a building thereon for the purposes of education," a certain lot of land containing 250 rods, more or less, the bounds, etc., being given, and the owner repeats that the lot was given to these trustees and their successors "to hold in trust for the benefit of the Proprietors of said High School, while they occupy the same for the purposes of education, and no longer." The deed also provided that the proprietors should build and maintain all the fence adjoining Mr. Sanford's land so long as they should occupy the same under the deed, etc. This document was dated May 27, 1843, and was not recorded until December 23, 1859, subsequent to which time other deeds relating to the lot were passed. The reason for this manner and date of transfer cannot now be given nor would it be necessary to go into such details here; suffice it to say that the history of this piece of land has in nowise differed from that of other lands like it devoted for any time or in any way to public or semi-public purposes, its "metes and bounds" and rights of proprietorship having given rise to no end of discussion and controversy. Such lands everywhere, it would seem, yield abundant crops of nothing but unanswered if not unanswerable questions and fat lawyers' fees.

Something near a score of years ago the Academy Association voted to lease this property to District No. 18 for a term of ninety-nine years, thus giving authority to remove the old building from its position to make room for a new and large public schoolhouse on that site. In 1883, when districts were abolished, the town bought the new building with other district properties and also the rights of the association lease. The academy's first move was to the west side of the lot, and in 1889 a second move was made to the east side, where it now stands (1891).] For a number of years two of the public schools have held their sessions in it. A straggling sort of existence is about all that is now claimed by the association, which results in the calling of meetings at rare intervals for the choice of officers, but little else remains to be done. The treasurer, John Thacher, has in his hands a fund of eight

or more hundred dollars, the proceeds of the transfer of the property to the town, and the maintenance of an organization will be necessary until some disposition is finally made of this sum.

The first teacher in the academy was ZWANGHUS GORHAM, and following him within the space of two and a half years were Rev. William M. Purvon, Phineas C. Knapp, and John C. Borton, the latter going to North Attleborough. Leonard Walcott, of Scitowick, had a select school here much later. He came here from Wrentham, having taught in the academy there. The teacher who remained the longest time, and who was probably the most successful, was James M. Hickey. Under him there was a very flourishing school, which continued for a number of years. He was a severe taskmaster, but he seemed to inspire in his pupils a desire for knowledge and to induce them with enthusiasm in the pursuit of it; and many no doubt in looking back will acknowledge that some at least of the success of their after years has been the result of the hard mental work he exacted of them. The school never attained the same prestige under any other instruction, and at times no school whatever was maintained in the building. At one time two of the districts maintained what was called the Union High School here, their pupils being admitted free of charge, but those who attended from other portions of the town were charged for tuition. Under this arrangement George Allen and a Mr. Thompson taught; and later J. O. Tiffany and Elliot Sanford. At another time George M. Read had a select school, and a Mr. Rice, assisted by one or two sons, also; and there were perhaps others before the building passed finally into the hands of his district and finally the town.

There have been other small private schools at various times in town, but these have not lived long or had marked success, the excellent condition of the public schools having in recent years done away with the necessity for private schools of an intermediate or even higher grade. The only school of this kind in town at the present time is the one on South Main Street, Attleborough, which has been kept there for a number of years by Miss Lizzie Blumerg. It is chiefly for *private study children*.

Compared with the schools of a century ago, those of our day are models, it might almost be said, of perfection. It would seem that the highest limit of excellence in many respects had been nearly reached. Certainly the superiority of the present systems of instruction, as a whole, over previous ones has been thoroughly demonstrated. Scarcely too much can be said that is favorable to our methods, and comparatively little that is censurable. One question has, however, recently arisen, which is being more or less discussed, relating to the amount and variety of work attempted in the public schools. There is an opinion that our system as at present developed has in it a too decided forcing element, that the variety and extent of the work required in a given time maintain a constant pressure which, if not carefully regulated, will prove an unwholesome, or growing, irritant and trouble. This question is

applicable in some degree to teachers as well as pupils, because the acquirements demanded of them are becoming more and more extensive and comprehensive. If this opinion proves to be well founded and our common school system has any such defect in its construction, the bad results will of course manifest themselves unmistakably, and the appearance of real disease will be followed by the application of such measures as may be necessary to eradicate it; those in charge of the education of the masses will set themselves to search out the cause, and effect the cure, and our town will not be the last to take such remedies as may be prescribed. With all the ambitious strides forward in the cause of free and general education in our commonwealth Attleborough has kept pace, and she may look back over the work accomplished with much satisfaction; and justly she may to-day feel proud of her public schools, their buildings, their pupils, their teachers.¹

¹ Some interesting facts relating to one of the old church buildings and a district schoolhouse have recently come to the writer's knowledge. They are given here because they could not be placed where they rightfully belong, in the account of the South Baptist Church in the preceding chapter. When that building was taken down the great solid oak timbers and beams were purchased by the town and reincorporated into another building which stood very nearly on the site now occupied by Saint Stephen's Church, which was known as "the yellow schoolhouse." Subsequently this building was either torn down or removed bodily to a site near where the church formerly stood, and then it became "the red schoolhouse." When the districts were abolished and their property sold this little schoolhouse was purchased, moved across the road, and converted into a dwelling-house, which it still continues to be. It is the third house on the right side going from the Dodgeville and Hebronville Road to County Street, and passing by the "old Tiffany place."

CHAPTER XII.

—MINERAL RESOURCES — THE IRONWORKS — COTTON MANUFACTURES. ETC.

AN interesting manufacture was established in this town, previous to the Revolution. It was called in those days *Bloomery*, and consisted of furnaces for the manufacture of iron. Several manufactories had been erected under the care of the Leonards, of Taunton, soon after the settlement of the country. Iron ore was found in the Old Colony to abundance, and the principal forests of the country supplied cheap and abundant fuel for the use of such manufactories. Furnaces were furnished by Taunton, Dighton, and Raynham, and the earliest in Braintree. The Leonards were iron-mongers in Philadelphia, Wales, before their emigration to New England, and were familiar with all the processes of the manufacture. In 1705 two of the name, Thomas and James, Jr., sons of the emigrant James, established the manufacture in Taunton North Purchase, in that part which is now Norton, on a stream called in those Charley, and the furnaces were known as the Charley Iron Works. These furnaces were run for over a hundred years, and by father and son through four generations. This establishment, which was near our territory, may have turned attention to this town as a suitable place for a similar establishment.

Be that as it may, a manufactory of this kind was established here, and located in that part of the village of Fort Atkinson, called *Mechanicville*, now Mechanics. Its history seems to have passed almost from the memory of the neighborhood. One building, however, remained for a long time after the discontinuance of the works, and is within the remembrance of a number of persons now living.

The first person who erected a forge on this spot, so far as known, was Robert Saunderson, a merchant of Boston. Previous to the existence of the iron works, a saw and grist mill had been standing on the premises. These works were occupied and carried on at one time by Thomas Baylies, probably as a means of subsistence, as there is no evidence of activity on his part. In a deed from John Sargent to Robert Saunderson, of a small tract of one and one-half acres of land adjoining these premises and bearing date February 22, 1742, "in the sixteenth year of the king's reign," Saunderson is called "Tanner Moore," but there is no trace of the date of the original purchase of these premises and the establishment of the iron works.

Saunderson was said to be an English emigrant, possibly he had been connected with iron business in his native country and naturally turned his

attention to it in this. He built a dwelling-house, it is said after the English model of that day, where he lived in fashionable style. How successful the forge proved in his hands, or what was the cause of his selling it, does not transpire, but on June 26, 1742,¹ it passed from his hands into those of Robert Lightfoot, also a merchant of Boston, "for the sum of £2000 current money of the province." The property sold to him consisted of "about fifteen acres of land, including the Forge Pond, together with a forge containing three fires, and a cole house, Pigg house, two dwellings and granary, a stable on said premises standing, and all the utensils belonging to and proper for such a forge in good going order, the whole being under ye occupation of Thomas Baylies."

This seems to have been only a part of Saunderson's property in this place, for on July 1, 1750, he made a further purchase of John Sweet, a small tract of land containing about one fourth of an acre, for five shillings, and subsequent sales are also recorded.

"Robert Saunderson of Attleboro, to John Merrit of Providence, merchant, a certain tract of land in Attleborough, one half of a certain tract of land twenty acres, on Ten Mile River, together with one half of a forge, coal house, dwelling house, barn and sundry other buildings. April 25, 1752. Witness

Henry Sweet.
Jon. Capron.

Before Dan'l Carpenter,
Justice of the Peace."

"Robert Saunderson, Iron Master of Attleboro' £300, to John Merrit, a certain tract adjoining my house lot, twenty five acres, another containing twenty four acres." This is dated April 25, 1752. Also a tract was sold containing sixty-five acres, and another containing thirteen acres, five tracts in the whole. Saunderson seems therefore to have retained a part interest in the works for about ten years after the sale to Lightfoot, but how long he continued his residence is not known. There is no further mention of him, but the facts above given are sufficient to show that he was a man of substance, and that the iron manufactory must probably have been a considerable one.

Lightfoot retained his ownership here about seventeen years, until 1759. Previous to that time, however, he had left town, and removed to Newport, R. I. He seems not to have attended personally to his business here, for it is supposed that Mr. Thomas Cobb was conducting the works, either by lease or as superintendent, as early as 1748, and the previous overseer, Thomas Baylies, may have continued until that time. It was probably through the

¹ The date of this transfer is also given as January 5, 1743. The Editor is unable to say which is the correct one.

purchase of his foreman, James Leonard, Jr., of Norton, that Mr. Cobb seemed to attribute to this occupation, and later became the partner in it.

May 20, 1759, Robert Lightfoot, of Newport, R. I., "Iron Master," came over to Thomas Cobb, of Taunton, these premises, or his share of them, which then included fifteen acres of land, together with a forge, consisting of three fires, a coal house, three dwelling houses, a stable, and all the other buildings standing on the said land; and all the interests belonging to said forge and premises; all which premises aforesaid, with the appurtenances now to be hereunto received by the said Thomas Cobb, in the perfect state, quality, and condition, they are now in." In addition to these properties, which are nearly identical with those sold by Sanderson to Lightfoot, there were added the remains of an Ab Franchise, and Rearing Mill, with scales for weighing, and weights thereto belonging." This deed was dated May 22, 1759 the 22d year of the reign of our most sacred majesty George the Second, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, and soforth, and in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty nine." At the same time John Meritt, of Providence, and Margaret Meritt, his wife, convey their portion of this property to Mr. Cobb.

For six or seven years after these purchases Mr. Cobb evidently continued to conduct the works, but on January 22, 1765, it is recorded that he conveyed his entire property in this town to his son Jonathan Cobb. It is also evident that notwithstanding this transfer he continued to reside here and occupy the "mansion house" included in the conveyance, as it is known he was here in 1770. What this arrangement was can only be conjectured. Perhaps it was like some firms to-day, where one member supplies the capital and becomes a "silent partner," and the business is conducted in the other's name.

No record appears of the date of the sale of the property by Jonathan Cobb, but it was probably not far from 1810. The purchaser was Nathaniel Robinson, who worked the forge for a time, but finally converted the establishment into a blacksmith's shop, etc. He sold what we told you of August 1, 1850, to Elihu Ingraham, of Framingham, and John Ingraham, and Henry Sweet, of this town — it is said for the sum of \$5,000. His property was described as "land, containing a descriptions, barn, corn-crib, grist and saw-mill, trip hammer shop, and all buildings thereon," and there was a recitation of a previous grant "and sale," of 1759, of one Richardson.

The first cotton mill here was erected in 1811, and the first firm was Ingraham, Richardson & Co. This firm was put in the first two-story house on the place. The members were Elijah and Ezra Ingraham, Abiathar Richardson, Jr., Henry Sweet, Moses Richardson, Daniel Cobb, and Josiah Whitaker. Daniel Cobb owned a one-sixteenth share, which he sold to

Whitaker September 3, 1821, and on June 18, 1821, Whitaker also purchased Jabel Ingraham's share of the property. Whitaker was from Providence.

The second firm was WHITAKER, RICHARDSON & Co. The next took the name of THE MECHANICS MANUFACTURING Co., the firm being Samuel and Jesse Carpenter. Some two years subsequent to the erection of this mill the factory just above on the river was built, and from the fact that the neighboring farmers had supplied a large proportion of the money for its construction it was called "The Farmers' Factory," though at the same time it was also known as "The Bliss Factory." The one of which we are writing had been called "The Ingraham and Richardson," and later "The Carpenter Factory," but mistakes occurred, names and factories frequently got "mixed," and therefore the name of "Mechanics" was given to this factory in order to clearly distinguish it from the other. The mistakes are easily accounted for by the fact that Samuel and Jesse Carpenter, Jonathan, George, and Zeba Bliss bought the two mills conjointly, and if they were called by the names of the owners, either might be meant and confusion ensue. A division was finally effected, and the Bliss brothers took the "Farmers'." This was not far from 1830, it is said, and then probably the name was chosen.

While owned and conducted by the last-named firm, the Mechanics establishment had about forty looms, ten hundred and thirty-six spindles, Patterson machinery, and manufactured annually of calico prints, No. 27, about 291,000 yards. The number of hands employed was thirty-eight, twenty-seven of them females. The building was eighty-four feet long by thirty-two wide, and three stories high. Connected with it were the old trip hammer shop and gristmill.

The village formerly constituted the school district No. 22, and in 1834 there were thirty-five scholars in families belonging to the establishment, and a school was kept from six to eight months during the year, with an average of twenty-four in attendance. Twenty-three years previous to that time the village numbered one child.

There were formerly many joint owners of this property, and for several years changes were frequent. Dates of some of these have been ascertained. April 1, 1825, Moses Richardson and Josiah Whitaker sold their shares to Jesse Carpenter, Samuel Carpenter, Jonathan, Zeba, and Martin Bliss, of this town, and Pretate Ingraham, of Pawtucket, and on July 16, of the same year, they bought Henry Sweet's share. August 12, 1829, Martin Bliss sold to Samuel Carpenter; June 30, 1831, Jesse Carpenter sold to him; and October 31, 1831, Jonathan and George Bliss also. February 17, 1834, Samuel Carpenter sold a portion of the property to Albert Carpenter, and on November 26, 1838, he bought A. A. Richardson's¹ share. Some time during these years an addition was built to the mill, and eight looms added. At

¹ Son of Abner Richardson, a previous owner.

Captain Bugbee formed a company with John Richardson, George Blackinton, David Shephard, Ebenezer Draper, Lemuel May, and Samuel Tift. They added a story to the mill and thirty feet in length at one end. Their manufactory had about twenty looms and five hundred spindles, and about a thousand yards of cloth were made per week. Captain Bugbee sold his interest to William Blackinton in 1812. The others continued some five years longer. The business was a prosperous one until the occurrence of a panic in 1817. After that the factory was purchased by Lemuel May and Daniel Cobb, who carried on the same business for about ten years, or until 1828. Early in that year Captain Bugbee and William Haven¹ owned and occupied it. Finally, in the summer of 1832, it was burned.

THE FALLS FACTORY, so called, was built by THE FALLS MANUFACTURING COMPANY, which was incorporated February 13, 1813. There has been a mill on this spot almost since the time the history of the town, as a town, began. Joseph Daggett put up a "corn mill" here, at what exact date is not known, but it must have been previous to 1703. How long he held possession or to whom he sold the premises is not known. There was also a sawmill here very early. In the time of the Revolution the property was owned by Lieutenant Jonathan Stanley, an officer in the Continental Army. It descended to his son, Artemas Stanley, who, in 1809 or 1810, sold the privilege to the "Stock Company" in which Artemas, Stephen, and Jacob Stanley, Edward Richards, Otis Blackinton, and "Squire" Cheever were the largest stockholders. This company, as above stated, was incorporated in 1813. About that time, or a little later, Artemas Stanley withdrew from the company, and still later there were other changes; but beyond the fact itself little is known. Hon. Ebenezer Daggett was at one time a one-fourth owner in the company, but at what date cannot now be ascertained. The privilege here has about thirty feet fall and, as has been seen, was the first mill seat occupied in town.

The first factory was commenced in the fall of 1809. In February, 1811, after having been in operation only about a year, it was burned down but was immediately rebuilt. In this factory at first cotton yarn was spun and "the weaving was done on hand looms in neighboring families."² One of these old looms has been kept till the present time in the Stanley family — descendants of those of the name who were owners in the first cotton mill. A part of the original building still remains and is now in use as a jewelry shop. At one time there was a gristmill in the basement of this building.

¹ It would seem that Bugbee and Haven purchased for the second time, or that they had owned the property from 1809, and the purchase by May and Cobb included only the business, or still again that the original owners sold to Bugbee alone, and Haven became part owner only in 1828. The various accounts, which are probably taken from memory partly, seem to differ.

² This was the case with all the New England cotton mills up to 1844, their work being confined to the spinning of yarn, and all the weaving being done "in the homes of the people," on the ponderous hand looms of the day.

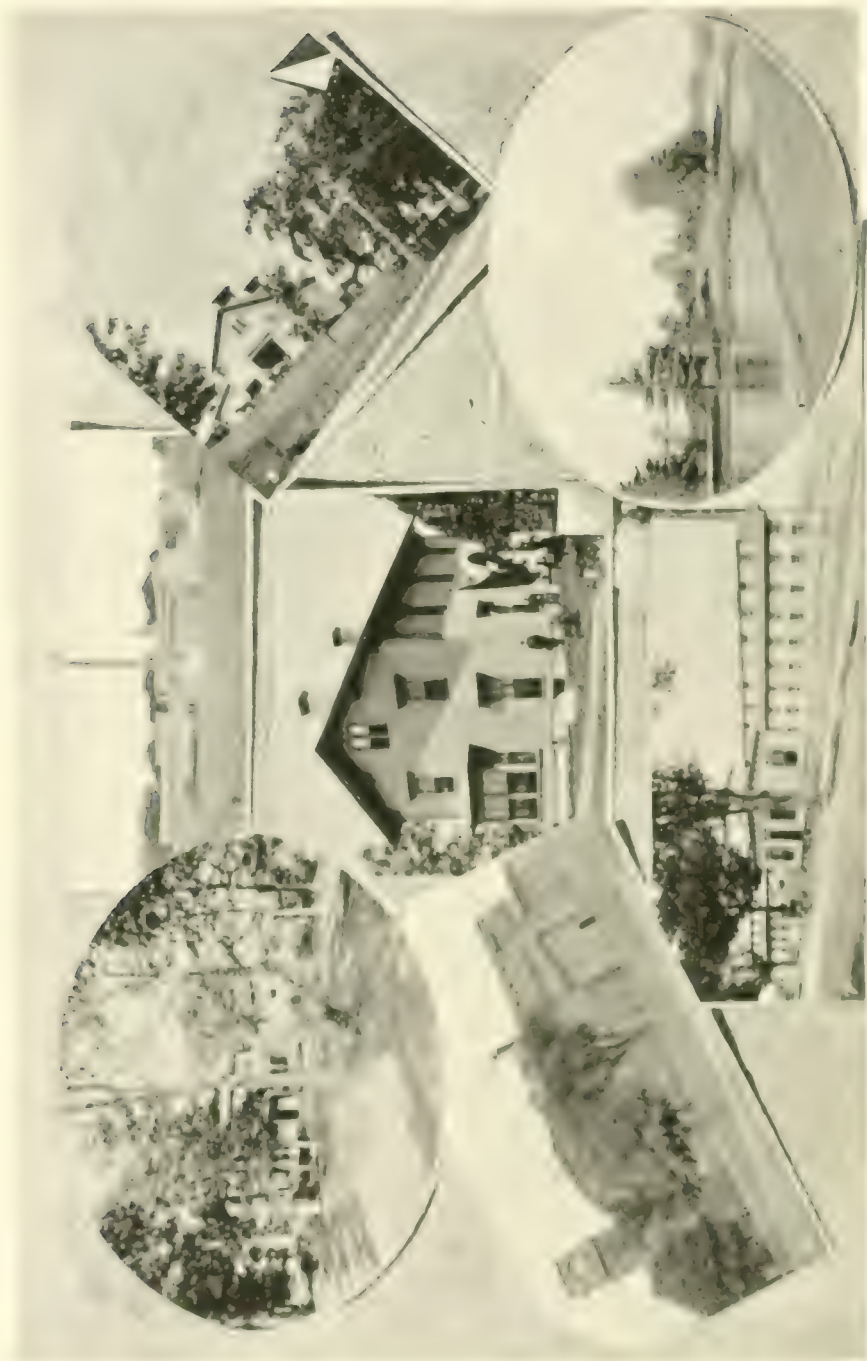
facturing Company." Not far from 1830 it came into the possession of the Bliss Brothers, — its purchase of the Farmers' Company has been previously referred to in the account of the Mechanics' mill, — and in 1834 it was owned by Jonathan and George Bliss, who carried on cotton manufacturing there. The number of hands employed at that time was twenty-three, of whom seventeen were females. The number of bales of New Orleans cotton consumed per year was about seventy-five, and the number of yards of cloth — calico printing No. 30 — manufactured 135,000. The privilege there has about thirteen feet fall.

The business after a time proved to be unremunerative and was abandoned, and in 1854 the property was sold at auction and struck off to H. M. Richards. About a year later it was purchased by H. N. and H. M. Daggett, by exchange of the Falls mill property. They made shoestrings at one time. Mr. H. N. Daggett occupied the mill for the making of certain kinds of braid, chiefly those for hoopskirts: and subsequently Mr. H. M. Daggett used it for the making of thread and knitting cotton.

For some years after the various forms of cotton manufacturing were given up the mill was used as an iron foundry. Bishop & Gavitt first occupied it for this purpose. They made Attleborough, Queen, Victory, and Eclectic ranges, New Golden Eagle furnaces, many kinds of hollow ware, and a new kind of hot-air furnace, invented by Mr. Gavitt. This firm remained several years, and were followed by Spicers, who carried on the same business. The building is at present unoccupied, and has been so for several years. It is owned by Mr. H. N. Daggett.¹

THE CITY FACTORY, situated on the Seven Mile River, the only cotton factory on the river, was built in 1813. It was incorporated by Act of Legislature, February 7, 1818, under the name of "The Attleborough City Manufacturing Company." The members at first were Joel Read, Lemuel May, Carlos Barrows, Squire French, Ebenezer and Nathaniel Allen. It was burned in 1826 and rebuilt immediately. The second building was forty feet by thirty-four and three stories high. The number of hands employed seven or eight years later was seventeen, of whom twelve were females. It ran seven hundred spindles and twenty looms, consumed fifty bales of New Orleans cotton, and produced about 1,800 yards of cloth per week, or at the rate of 23,600 yards annually. In connection with it was a machine shop which employed twelve workmen, and a grocery store. The firm owning and running the mill at this time was called Daniel Read & Co. Of the subsequent history of this mill property but little has been ascertained. It has

¹ Mr. Daggett purchased the property of his brother, H. M. Daggett, and sold it to the North Attleborough Steam and Electric Company, which used it as a power-house. January 2, 1894, the power-house was destroyed by fire. This was an addition to the old factory building proper, which latter escaped even serious damage from the fire, the greatest damage being sustained by the costly electric machinery. The mill has been destroyed, and a new power-house built.



1. S. A. Medvedev, *Uchenye Zapiski Kazanskogo Universiteta*, **3**, 11 (1959).
2. P. A. Medvedev, *Uchenye Zapiski Kazanskogo Universiteta*, **3**, 11 (1959).
3. P. A. Medvedev, *Uchenye Zapiski Kazanskogo Universiteta*, **3**, 11 (1959).
4. P. A. Medvedev, *Uchenye Zapiski Kazanskogo Universiteta*, **3**, 11 (1959).
5. P. A. Medvedev, *Uchenye Zapiski Kazanskogo Universiteta*, **3**, 11 (1959).

frames and preparations, besides twist-ers, reels, chain and beam warpers, etc. About fifty hands are employed, and all but seven are of foreign birth or extraction. The consumption of cotton is about five hundred bales annually, and about one hundred and eighty thousand pounds of yarn are produced. These yarns are made in chain warps, skeins, or on beams, and are sold largely in the New York and Philadelphia markets.

Says a writer: "The embargo of 1807-8 benefited manufacturers at the expense of commerce, and much of the capital and effort engaged in the latter were directed to industrial channels." Its effect is proved by the statement made that previous to the embargo there were only fifteen cotton mills in the United States, and furthermore that, according to statistics, at the end of less than a year and a half that number had swelled to nearly a hundred. Of that number of establishments in operation our town had two, the Beaver Dam factory, before mentioned, and the one at Dodgeville.

DODGE'S FACTORY was established in 1809, by Ebenezer Tyler, Esq., of Pawtucket, Nehemiah Dodge, Peter Grinnell & Son, and Abner Daggett, of Providence, Elias Ingraham, Edward Richardson, and Daniel Babcock, of Attleborough, under the firm name of THE ATTLEBOROUGH MANUFACTURING COMPANY, Ebenezer Tyler, Agent. The building at first was 88 feet by 31, and three stories high, including the basement story. During the war of 1812 and until the early part of the year 1815, it is said that "manufactures throughout the country continued to progress with unprecedented activity," and this mill was greatly benefited by this increase of business. In 1820 it contained thirteen hundred and twenty spindles, when Josiah Whitaker and John C. Dodge, of Providence, purchased one half of it. In the spring of 1812 the name was changed to that of the TYLER MANUFACTURING COMPANY under the agency of J. C. Dodge. In 1822 Nehemiah Dodge and John C. Dodge, his son, purchased the remainder of the factory, and continued the business under the style of N. & J. C. DODGE. In 1829 they built an addition to the factory of ninety-six feet, making it 184 feet by 31. It then contained four thousand spindles and ninety-two power looms, and gave employment to one hundred and thirty hands.

The author's words as written about 1834 are: "It is the largest establishment of the kind in town. The village, which is known by the name of Dodgeville, has been recently very much improved under the superintendence of the present agent. It contains a population of two hundred and sixty persons (all connected with the manufacturing establishment), one machine shop, one picker house, one store, one blacksmith's shop, four barns, and fifteen dwelling-houses, many of them new. It forms district No. 23, and has a new, commodious, and uncommonly well-finished school house, where a school is kept the greater part of the year." Some at least of all this is true at the present time. There is no larger establishment of the kind in

2000,—the Hebron still being only its equal.—The village is certainly pretty and well cared for under the present superintendence. And it has the best schoolhouse, of which only to be said quite all that was said of the possession of fifty years ago; and most of the figures just as obtained.—The present mill (perfectly) constructed not about 1840, when the son purchased the father's interest and continued the business alone.—He made further additions to the factory and increased the number of looms to one hundred and thirty-six. Subsequently success came, and in June, 1854, the property was sold at auction.

Messrs. B. B. and R. Knight became the purchasers and subsequently Stephen A. Knight, another brother, was admitted to the business.—In 1859 these owners were incorporated, with a nominal capital of \$100,000, under the name of **HEBRON MANUFACTURING COMPANY**, to which the mill here and at Hebronville belong.—The mill building here, which is of wood, is three hundred and eighty feet long, sixty feet wide, and four stories high with two wings.—It contains twenty-two thousand spindles, five hundred looms, and is run by both water and steam power.—About two hundred and thirty hands are employed, sixty per cent. of whom are males. There are used here yearly 3,250,000 pounds of cotton and 2,500,000 yards of yarn are made. This is the well-known and famous "Plant of five looms." There are 11 hundred tenements connected with the mill besides other buildings, including offices, etc.—The number of spindles and looms has increased over fivefold since the date of the figures given above, and doubtless the consumption and production in a similar ratio, but the number of hands employed has not quite doubled, which shows the wonderful improvement in machinery during the past fifty years.

A short time since a fire broke out here which for a time threatened entire destruction to the mill and its contents. Owing to the vigorous efforts of Mr. Charles O. Merrill, the superintendent, which were ably seconded by the hands, who refrained from causing a panic and fought the fire, the danger was happily averted, and the damage done to the property was comparatively small. [Present superintendent (1893), Mr. W. H. Garner.]

The **ASHESBORO FLOURING MILL** was established about 1812 at what is now Hebronville, and was incorporated June 14, 1816, "for the purpose of manufacturing cotton and woolen goods," by the name of **THE ASHBORNS MANUFACTURING COMPANY**. The mill was originally situated on "Charles's Mill," where gristmill and gristmill were early built. This establishment was owned and improved by several different companies.—An addition was made to the factory in 1828, making the building ninety-eight by thirty-two feet.—It had then sixteen hundred spindles and forty-two looms and employed about thirty hands.—The mill consumed, from Nov. 20 until Dec. 20, about two hundred and fifty bales of New Orleans cotton were consumed per week, and about four hundred thousand yards of the goods were made.

Thomas Harkness and Thomas J. Stead were the owners of this property at this time — successors to the Athertons. They were Quaker merchants of Providence. They were probably the ones who made the above-mentioned additions. They continued here until 1848, at which time the Knights purchased the property.

The present mill, built by the Knights, is of brick, and has been much enlarged since it was first erected. The main buildings, No. 1 and No. 2, are respectively one hundred and six and one hundred and twelve by fifty-four feet, with a wing one hundred and two by forty-six feet, and they are run by both steam and water power. There are connected with the establishment a boiler house, waste house, blacksmith's shop, picker, lapping and cloth rooms, offices, and seventy-six tenements. The figures given here are almost identical with those of Dodgeville: twenty-two thousand spindles, four hundred and ninety-eight looms, two hundred and thirty-seven employees, with about the same amount of cotton consumed annually — 1,250,000 pounds and 2,250,000 yards of cloth manufactured. Unlike the sister mill, however, in this one several kinds of cloth are made — chiefly five, four, and three leaf twills and plain sheetings. The superintendent here is Joseph H. Aull.

A large amount of business is done in these establishments, as may be seen. No approximation of the payrolls could be given, however, or of the value of the cloth made yearly, as both are fixed and changed by the fluctuations of the market, the employees being paid less or more according to the prices the cloths fetch in the market (1887). [Present superintendent (1893), Mr. Adam McWhinnie.]

BUTTON MANUFACTORIES.

The first actual manufacture of metal buttons in town was begun on a small scale by Edward Price, an emigrant from Birmingham, England, who came here and settled in 1793. He had been engaged in this business previous to his emigration, and brought machinery with him to this country. He carried on the work alone for a number of years, making principally the large outside buttons in fashion at that time. He occupied a small shop near the present residence of John T. Bates, and continued in the east part of the town until 1800, when he removed to North Attleborough. He continued the business there for a number of years with some success.

The second manufacture of metal buttons was commenced in 1812 by Colonel Obed and Otis Robinson. In the establishment of their business they were aided by the skill and experience of Mr. Price. This was the first company formed for this manufacture in the United States.

The manufacture of glass buttons was commenced in 1823 by RICHARD ROBINSON & Co., the firm consisting of Richard Robinson, Virgil Blackinton, and Willard Robinson, the ingenious machinery they used being chiefly of their own invention. The original company began the business on a small scale and met with many embarrassments and discouragements in its early

stages, but after becoming thoroughly established it began to increase gradually at first, and finally became very extensive. Robert Rathson appears to have had sole charge of the business, but whether the other partners had retired or what was the cause is not known. In 1825 a new company was formed under the same style of *Robinson & Co.* for the term of five years, which expired in May, 1831.

At that time the firm of *Robinson, Jones & Co.* was composed of *Robinson* and *Willard Robinson*, *William H. Jones*, and *H. M. Draper*. Their commercial features (a small shop about 45 or 50 feet in size). An addition to this building had been made in the summer of 1826, and its machinery was carried by horse-power.

It was in the latter part of the year 1826 that the firm then conducting the business began to work out the gilt button, thus being the first manufacturer of that button in the country. In 1827 the company erected a brick factory two stories high, 50 feet long by 25 wide, and in 1828 the business required an addition of twenty-five feet in length. The machinery was carried by water power from the Ten Mile River, and the improvements in it were largely the result of *Willard Robinson's* inventive skill. The rolling mill connected with the establishment and built in 1822 was 60 feet by 25. In 1832 the new company built another shop of wood, one story high, and 60 feet by 25. The number of hands employed about that time was seventy-five, of whom thirty were females, and the number of buttons manufactured was about one hundred gross a day. At different times various kinds of buttons were produced. From 1826 to 1832 the common gilt button had been manufactured, which competed in a good degree with the English. Subsequent to 1832 the company made all the varieties which the market demanded — the common button, the navy, the military, the fancy, and sporting buttons, which were acknowledged superior to any others in the market in the beauty, finish, and durability of the work.

The following paragraphs are transcribed from the first edition of this book, printed in 1844:—

"This company has brought the manufacture of this article to such perfection, by constant improvement, that the skill of its workmen is in complete sympathy with all others in the market whether domestic or foreign,—indeed if proper encouragement should be given by adequate protection to this branch of industry, it would soon be sufficient to supply all our home demands, and thereby to encourage our own manufactures. Consequently they have secured all the contested premiums which have been offered by the Institutes of New York, Philadelphia, and Boston,—sometimes jointly with others. They have in their possession three medals (silver) and two diplomas.

"Several important improvements in the mode of manufacture have been made by one of the firm, *Mr. Willard Robinson*, for some of which patents

"A common gilt button which appears when finished so simple, undergoes in the course of being manufactured over thirty different processes, some of which require great skill and experience. Each button is separately handled twenty-one times.

"Some of the females mentioned as connected with this establishment are employed principally in drying, sorting, papering and packing, and others in edging, cramping, placing the eye and preparing it for soldering. It furnishes for females a neat, agreeable and profitable occupation.

"The capital employed by this establishment is about \$50,000. They use in gilding about \$15,000 worth of pure gold generally obtained in its natural state; and consume forty tons of Lehigh coal annually.

"The number of tenements occupied by those employed in the factory is thirteen. Several new dwelling houses have been lately erected for their use.

"Agencies for the sale of this article have been established in all the principal cities of the Union. Some of the articles have been exported to foreign countries,—to South America, Hayti, and several of the West India islands. The button now manufactured is equal in every respect to the English, and perhaps superior in durability."

In 1835 the firm was employing about one hundred hands, and a pretty village of comfortable houses, named from the owners, Robinsonville, surrounded the factories. In 1843 the fashion in buttons changed, and the unrivaled success of this firm was brought to an end, and Mr. Willard Robinson, who was at that time conducting the business, was obliged to suspend operations, though that branch of the business consisting of army, navy, and police buttons was taken up not long after this time and is still continued near the original place of manufacture.

Mr. John Hatch, a mechanic employed by the Robinsons, had thought out a curious invention, a machine to make suspender buttons, and by the combined efforts of Mr. Willard Robinson and himself this machine was perfected. It was patented February 20, 1845, in Mr. Robinson's name. This was the justly famous "Button Machine." Six machines were made, and subsequently one of them was sent to Germany. No others have been made, and the five in town are the only ones of their special kind in existence in the country. They are automatic, cut and completely make the buttons from tin plates, each machine making about twenty-three buttons a minute, or 13,800 in a day of ten hours' length. These buttons came rapidly into use, the great advantage they possess in not cutting the thread used in fastening them being speedily recognized. They were made by millions, and used for various purposes. Large contracts were filled for the government during the Civil War.

Messrs. Robinson and Hatch became partners for the manufacture of these buttons. The patent and its extensions covered a period of twenty-one years, and for that length of time this special manufacture almost controlled the

business. Mr. Henshield in 1840, only four years after the partnership was formed; but Mr. Robinson continued the business until his death, which occurred in 1849. It is now conducted by Arthur E. Robinson, who on March 1, 1850, bought the business of his father's estate, and carried it on under his own name, as the only manufacturer of "HATFIELD'S PATENT METAL AND PANTALON BUTTONS." [Mr. Robinson has since died.]

These button machines are very curious and intricate in their construction and require the most and most careful adjustment to ensure perfect work. This adjustment being right, the work is excellent, and the result a button unequalled of its kind. The first machine made has been running over forty-five years, is running to-day, one of the best, if not the best, of the five. It is evidently a favorite with the long-time foreman of the shop, for he speaks of its capabilities with assurance and admiration. Various other trousers buttons are made at the present time, and as they can be put into the market at a cheaper rate they have somewhat superseded these, but they do not compare with them in appearance or durability.

D. EVANS & Co. succeeded the Robinsons in the making of metal buttons, about 1848. This firm manufactures both plain and fancy army and navy buttons, all kinds of military and livery gilt and silver-plated buttons. During the war this was a very extensive and profitable business, as many large contracts were filled directly for the government, or for those supplying uniforms for our soldiers in both the army and navy. The business has always been conducted at Robinsonville, now a part of Attleborough Falls. So much competition has arisen in this as in other branches of manufacturing that the business here has been much reduced, and at present very little is being done.

Another manufactory of buttons was established in October, 1832, by a different firm, under the name of ROBINSON, HALL & Co. The shop was situated on the Seven Mile River, near Newell's Tavern in West Attleborough, and quite near the residence of Elisha G. May. The first shop was 30 feet by 20; another, built in 1833 or 1834, was 35 feet by 25, and three stories high. This establishment employed nineteen hands, of whom ten were females, and when the new one was completed some twenty-five to thirty were probably employed. This company made plain metal buttons, for both coats and vests, and of three different prices. They at one time produced about seventy-five gross per day, and subsequently probably this amount was increased.

This old shop and its predecessor had a varied experience. There was first of all a *Distressed Shop* (distress was supposed to be a cotton mill run by a Mr. Sibley, and then into a button factory. In one of these buildings Mr. Elisha G. May learned the button trade. That business here came to a close about fifty years ago, (about 1880) W. H. Robinson commenced manufacturing, turning about 100,000 in the shop, the Attleboroughs had some

He was followed by others in the same business. J. H. Hodges and J. T. Bacon started in company here in 1843, and while here—among the first to do it—they “introduced power” into their works. Mr. Hodges, it is said, was the first in town to make brass jewelry and have it electro-plated. This firm was here until 1847. After this it was for a time a pattern-making establishment. At length it became a dyehouse and bleachery with quite a large business, and finally in 1881 or 1882 it was burned down. Whatever remnants of its ruins may have been visible were all washed away by the flood of 1886, which acted its wild will on this spot, changing its appearance so completely that not a trace of the old shop remains to mark its former site.

LEATHER MANUFACTORY.

In the centre of the village of South Attleborough, on the site now occupied by the leather works of WILLIAM COUPE & Co., the same kind of business, though of various branches, has been carried on for over a hundred years, a fact which can be stated of no other spot in town. So far as known, Isaac Draper was the first to have a tannery here; but the precise date of his starting it is not known. His son Ebenezer continued the business, then George and Halsey, grandsons, and finally Isaac Draper, a great-grandson and still living (in 1887), owned and conducted the concern. It began in a small and now considered a very old-fashioned way, but it was conducted with profit, a by no means exclusively old-fashioned consideration. “Many who pass the spot now, can remember the small building standing back from the road, and remember, too, the old horse that slowly moved the mill that ground and softened the hides.” The tannery continued moderately prosperous for many years; but finally larger firms monopolized the business, and the Drapers were obliged to discontinue.

When they suspended business could not be positively ascertained or to whom they first transferred the property; but in 1865, which we think could not be very long subsequent to their giving up the business, the building was owned by Henry Knowles, who was doing a small business by himself. In September of that year William Coupe came from Pawtucket to do what is called “green shaving” for Mr. Knowles. He was a thorough and experienced workman, “had learned the tanning trade in all its branches,” and from varied experience was ready to enter business and make it a success. About three weeks after coming to town he saw his opportunity, as he judged, made a proposition to take a share of the business here, which was accepted, and the firm of COUPE & KNOWLES was formed. This partnership continued only about three months, for Mr. Coupe was not satisfied with the then state of affairs. He made an offer to his partner to either buy or sell, which resulted in his becoming the buyer. His property was valued at \$700, his capital was \$1,500, and at the end of six months he had cleared \$1,000.

Pape's patent system for tanned leather appeared about this time, and Mr. Coupe bought a *patent* for manufacturing by it. But more capital was necessary, and in 1856, Edwin Evans, of Central Falls, became associated with him under the name of WHELAN, COUPE & CO. The needed assistance and time obtained, and the business increased prosperously. An infringement on the Pape patent was discovered and made by Mr. Coupe, which gave decided advantage to this firm. But competition was increasing as well as business, and further additions in the way of capital, enlarged and improved facilities, etc., became urgently necessary. Up to this time, about 1867 or 1868, the firm's goods had been sold "upon their merits"; that is, no efforts had been made to enlarge and extend its trade. Mr. Coupe determined to experiment in this direction, and he was so successful that the alterations which had been made in the works were at once proved to have been essential.

In the spring of 1869 Mr. Coupe again proposed to buy out his partner, and Mr. Evans concluded to sell, but this year Mr. Coupe was not the purchaser. Edwin Burgess, of Providence, bought Mr. Evans' share of the business for \$11,000, and the new firm was organized, the same name being retained. Both these present partners are men of enterprise, and despite the opposition of competition the firm has been continually prosperous. In July, 1872, the entire works were destroyed by fire, with a loss to the company of \$6,000. The fire was hardly out when the process of rebuilding was begun. The new shop was one hundred and five by forty-five feet, and three stories high, and was very quickly ready with necessary machinery for business. In the autumn of 1878 an addition was made, and the building is now two hundred and ten feet by forty-five, three stories high and has a wing forty feet square. From it an engine and boiler-house forty-four by thirty feet, separate from the main building. There is a fifty-horse-power Harris Corliss engine, which supplies the necessary power, and the boiler is large enough to furnish all the heat required for the entire building, including the dry room. This manufactory is furnished with a full set of belt-manufacturing machinery, several of the machines and their improvements being the result of Mr. Coupe's ingenuity and skill.

These works employ from fifty to sixty hands, and they prepare and make ready for the market in one form or another about 25,000 hides yearly. The greater proportion of these hides are made into lace leather, and this is one of the largest, if not the largest lace leather manufactory in America. It has been constantly growing and adding new departments of work for a number of years. Coupe's leather is known everywhere and is considered as the standard against which all other leather is made. The hides used here are of domestic and East India slaughter chiefly and must be put through several processes before they are ready for use, though these are fewer and simpler than by the old methods of preparation, owing to the

introduction of mechanical improvements. They are first thoroughly washed and cleaned, then put into a preparation of lime, which expands the skin and loosens the roots of the hairs so they can be easily removed; then the hides are bone dried, then "one tenth" moistened, and finally they are subjected to the rawhide machines to be softened, which operation makes them like buckskin. This process makes them altogether more flexible and durable than by the old "tanning" process. Machinery plays a far more important part now than it did by the old methods, and besides producing better results is a great economizer of time and labor, many less hands being required to accomplish the same amount of work than was formerly the case.

A list of the goods manufactured by this company is subjoined: Coupe's Patent Excelsior Raw Hide Belting of all widths from one to forty-eight inches, made under the "Schultz Patent"; Coupe's Patent Excelsior Raw Hide Lace Leather, prepared by a "mechanical process invented and patented by Mr. Coupe"; Coupe's Patent Excelsior Raw Hide Picker Leather, of four or five different weights; Excelsior Green Hide Picker Leather, also made by a process of Mr. Coupe's invention; Excelsior Tanned Lace Leather; Excelsior Tanned Picker Leather, with all lengths and kinds of straps; Coupe's Patent Excelsior Raw Hide Cut Lace, of six widths, from one fourth to three fourths of an inch; Excelsior Tanned Cut Lace in the same variety; and "Dry Flint Raw Hide" is furnished if desired. This firm are in receipt of testimonials from many customers in various parts of the country, which show the superiority of the goods they manufacture and the satisfaction these give to purchasers. This is not the only business done in the village of South Attleborough, but it is the largest and most extensive.

SHUTTLE MANUFACTORY.

Among the earlier manufactures was that of power-loom shuttles. This was commenced in the fall of 1827 by Colonel Willard Blackinton at the little village since often familiarly called Blackintonville and now forming a part of East Attleborough. A few years later Mr. Blackinton was employing twelve journeymen. About twenty-five dozen shuttles were produced per week in the establishment at the rate of \$6 per dozen. He also supplied a large amount of shuttle mountings for the use of other shuttle makers. The whole amount of the manufactures of this establishment was then about \$10,000 per annum. The work had an extensive sale throughout the United States — in Maryland, Georgia, Virginia, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, and in all the New England States. Agents for the sale of this article were established: at Pawtucket (then in Massachusetts), George Mumford; at North Adams, S. Burlingame; at Providence, R. I., Peter Grinnell & Son; at Norwich, Conn., Smith, Goddard & Coats; at New York City, C. N.

Mills, at Troy, N. Y., J. Martin & Co. at Philadelphia, Penn., W. Allard, at Baltimore, Md., Wells & Chase, etc.

Subsequently the business largely increased, and in 1847 a firm was organized under the name of W. Blackinton & Sons. It is said that when Mr. Blackinton first began this manufacture he employed but one loom, and the shuttles sold for a dollar apiece. Before the late war they were reduced as low as twenty-five cents apiece, but during that time the price advanced to \$4.50 per dozen. At first the greater part of the work was done by hand and prices were therefore high; later, when machinery was introduced, work could be much more cheaply done. Most of the wood for the making of shuttles is post-oak or boxwood and comes from Georgia or North Carolina. They have also been made of apple-tree wood, but the quality of such is inferior. While in the beginning it required twelve men to make twenty-five dozen shuttles in a week, after machinery came into use fifteen men could turn out two hundred a day, or a hundred dozen in a week. The processes for making this article are varied and numerous.

Four of Mr. Blackinton's five sons were at one time together engaged in this business with their father. William was the first to retire from the firm to take up another occupation, and the death of Willard, Jr., in 1871 made a second change. John sold out his share of the business at the time of his father's death in 1877, and since that time Charles, the remaining brother, has carried on the business alone. There are constant orders, but they are much smaller than in former years.

THE WHITING MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

We must go back nearly a half century to find the embryo which has developed into this large interest. In 1840 Albert C. Tift and William D. Whiting organized the firm of Tift & Whiting which was for many years well known and among the most prominent in town in the jewelry business. They began in a very small way in a room in a blacksmith's shop on the corner in North Andover-street. In eighteen months' time they needed more space, and therefore they erected a building which was 40 feet by 25, two stories high, and cost \$800. They were by this time employing thirty or forty men. In 1847 still larger quarters were demanded by their business and they purchased the site and privilege of the old Beaver Dam factory for \$2,000, and erected there a stone factory 90 feet by 40 and three stories high, which comprises a portion of the present company's building on the same spot. When work was commenced in this new factory seventy-five hands were employed and soon that number was doubled. Subsequently an addition of forty feet was made to the length of the factory and in one corner a strong stone safe was built, 8 feet by 12 and the entire height of the building, with doors in each story, and this was used as a place of secure deposit for goods.

This firm's manufacture was of gold goods — at first hearts and crosses and finger rings for both ladies and gentlemen. At the end of thirteen years, on January 1, 1853, Mr. Tift sold out his interest to Mr. Whiting for nearly \$100,000, so lucrative had the business become. TIFT & WHITING were the first among the jewelers in town to open an office in New York, and they and Sackett, Davis & Potter, of Providence, took offices there side by side. Mr. Whiting continued for some years under his own name, and later the firm was W. D. WHITING & Co. The business became a very large one and offices were opened in Boston and Philadelphia in addition to the one in New York.

Not long after the stone building was completed and occupied, the manufacture of ladies' silver combs was commenced and to these were added other articles in silver, until finally this branch of the business became a large industry in itself and the result was the formation of THE WHITING MANUFACTURING COMPANY. This was accomplished by Mr. Whiting in 1866 and incorporated under the laws of the State of New York "for the manufacture of standard silver-ware." The capital at the organization was \$100,000, and it was afterwards increased to \$175,000. This company continued its manufacturing in the stone building erected by Tift & Whiting, and for ten years they employed as many as one hundred and fifty hands. They produced the finest quality of solid silverware, and the amount made during some years is said to have been \$1,000,000 in value.

The company was burned out in 1875 but they immediately rebuilt their factory and one of larger size. This building is the present one, and is 215 feet in length. January 1, 1876, the company opened a large manufactory in New York City, and its establishment is located at Broadway and Fourth streets there. It has also a large retail store in that city.

THE GOLD MEDAL BRAID COMPANY.

The manufacturing interest which this company represents is one of the largest in town outside that of jewelry, and its founder is one of the pioneers, if not the real founder, of this special branch of industry in the country — the production of "first class domestic braids." In 1815 hand-loom, up to that time universally used in the manufacture of cotton fabrics, began to be abandoned and replaced by power looms, and a few years later the braider was invented and introduced. The latter is said to be a "creation of the brain" of a native of this town whose name was Thorpe.¹

After Mr. Daggett gave up the manufacture of cotton cloth he engaged in that of shoelacings, stearine candle-wickings, and later of covering hoop-

¹He appears to have been quite an inventive genius. A valuable machine for marking loom harnesses was also the product of his skill. This machine was in use for many years and probably may be so still.

skirt wares. He took up the business about 1830, making use of the American braidless invented by Phipps, and kept on until about the time the war broke out, when he turned his attention temporarily to another occupation, though the idea of making braid was already beginning to work itself out in his mind. Up to this time no braids had been produced in the country. Those used were imported from England and Germany, and to the amount of over \$5,000,000 worth yearly. The manufacturers who had attempted to make them in this country had found it almost impossible to place their goods on the market. Dealers were very unwilling to purchase them, and in order to effect any sales the manufacturers were compelled to promise a discount, or marked use of foreign tickets and labels. The war, however, cut off importations and then the demand came for domestic wares. Seeing that a great opportunity was offering itself, Mr. Daggett began to experiment and soon found himself able to produce a good braid. Some years previous to this time he had repurchased the Falls property, and during the first year of the war, or a little later, he formed a copartnership with John C. Morse, of Boston, placed his braiders in the stone mill, and commenced operations. Mr. Morse supplied material and attended to the sales, while Mr. Daggett supplied machinery and attended to the manufacture of the braids. The business soon became very successful and profitable, and at the close of the war this firm was largely supplying the consumers of the country. For eight years the profits were equally divided between the two partners. In 1869 Mr. Morse failed in his private business, which was that of a dry-goods jobber. Mr. Daggett found himself involved in this catastrophe and for a time, he feared, rather seriously; but he soon extricated himself from these difficulties and commenced business again.

During the same year he associated with himself Austin Dunham, of Hartford, Conn., and George S. Moulton, of New York. These two gentlemen furnished capital to the amount of \$50,000, and at the end of four years, when the firm was dissolved, they received over \$100,000, with seven per cent. interest on the capital besides — a fact which tells concisely yet completely what the success of this business had again been. At that time (1873) Mr. Daggett bought the entire interest, and remained sole owner and manager of the entire concern for seven years. In 1880 a stock company was formed, with the title of THE GOLD MEDAL BRAID CO. It has a capital of \$65,000 which is divided among seven stockholders. Mr. Daggett has the largest interest, and is treasurer and manager. Mr. Harvey Clap is the only other person in town holding stock; the remaining five stockholders being residents of Boston and New York.

The mill is 160 feet long, 45 feet wide, and five stories high. It is run by both water and steam power. It is furnished with a turbine horizontal wheel eighteen feet in diameter, and of one hundred horse-power, and is lighted

by electricity made in the building. The office is a separate building. The employees number a hundred and twenty-five, and a large percentage are women. At one time, and for quite an extended period, Mr. Daggett was obliged to keep the mill running night and day, with two full sets of workmen, to enable him to fill his large orders. The company manufactures worsted dress braids, alpaca braids, mohair coat bindings, and silk, linen, and cotton braided fishlines. These are all of the best quality and have an extensive sale in all parts of the country. They give entire satisfaction to all consumers, the fishlines especially being pronounced of the very best in the market. This is a thoroughly well-established manufacture, and while it has had periods of remarkable prosperity, it has had no long periods of depression or dullness, but has at all times been steadily successful. The company has at present an annual business of about \$250,000.

BOX MANUFACTORIES.

The manufacture of paper boxes was begun in town about thirty-six years ago, by Hartford Babcock. He commenced in Mansfield about 1851, and in the following year he came to this town. He had his place of business for a time in the Steam Power factory, but subsequently removed to the little shop which his father, Daniel Babcock, had used as a carpenter shop. It stood opposite his house, where it now stands, forming a portion of the present establishment, near the Farmers, on the road to the "city." In 1873 the business required more room than the small building afforded, and Mr. Babcock put up an addition to it. At first all the work was done by hand, even the cutting, the only machines used being bookbinders' shears. Now the entire process is performed by machinery, with the exception of the finishing, which here is still done by hand. The machines run by Mr. Babcock put the paper on to the outside of the boxes, and there are machines capable of doing the entire finishing, but they are very expensive, and the requirements of the business in this factory are not sufficient to warrant their purchase. Jewelers boxes in all sizes and styles have been and are still the specialty. The business is carried on under the name of H. S. Babcock, though one of his sons, Abbott Babcock, is connected with it. It amounts to "about \$2,000 worth per year." [Abbott Babcock has since purchased the business. The shop has recently been moved nearer the railroad, and stands nearly opposite the place where the "old company house" stood. Its former site and a considerable portion of the adjacent land has been purchased by Mr. William R. Cobb, and probably for residence purposes.]

C. W. Babcock, another son of H. S. Babcock, also took up this same business. He began February 1, 1879, on East Street, North Attleborough. He has since moved to No. 25 Elm Street, in the same village, and is now employing six hands. He makes all kinds and styles of paper boxes, and has a specialty for those used by jewelers.

THE ATTLEBOROUGH DYE WORKS.

The founder of these works was Robert Wolfenden, who was born in Huddersfield, Yorkshire, England, December 12, 1824. Huddersfield is one of the chief seats of the woollen manufactures of England, and has also cotton factories, breweries, chemical works, and dye-houses. In one of the latter, and one of the largest dyeing and bleaching establishments in the country, he served an apprenticeship with one Samuel Routledge, at its expiration becoming the head dyer in the woollen and worsted department of the house, a position he retained until he came to this country.

He held several positions at first after his arrival, but finally settled with Hayden & Saunders, of Haydenville, this State, in a position which he held for five years. He then went to the Valley Worsted Mills, of Providence, R. I., where he remained about the same length of time, and when he left his position there was assumed by his oldest son, John W. Wolfenden.

At that time he came to this town, and on February 22, 1868, he started "The Attleborough Dye Works, Robert Wolfenden, Proprietor." He had doubtless at first the usual experience of persons starting a business, discouragements as well as encouragements meeting his efforts; but he was a persevering man, and his close and steady application to business and rule of sending out nothing but good work reaped their due reward, so that in a comparatively short time he had established an assured and profitable trade in his line. He increased his works from time to time as the exigencies of his business demanded, and at the end of ten years, on January 1, 1878, he associated with himself his two sons, John W. and Oscar, as equal partners. The firm name became R. WOLFENDEN & SONS, but no change in the works occurred at that time. The business of the new firm had soon increased so largely as to require the building of additions to the works, and in a short time they had become a thoroughly well-established house.

Mr. Robert Wolfenden, the senior partner, died on May 29, 1883. This caused no change in the firm name, the brothers continuing the business under the same title. During the autumn of that year a considerable portion of the old building was torn down, and a larger and more convenient one erected in the same place. A new eighty horse-power boiler was added to the works, which at that time had a capacity of about four thousand pounds a day. The work done includes the dyeing and bleaching of "woolen and worsted yarns, also braids, tapes, hosiery, plush, webbing, etc., for all purposes," the dyeing embracing all the new and fashionable colors which a constantly changing market demands.

In 1887 the capacity of the works amounted to some five thousand pounds per day. These include the main building, 150 feet long, 30 feet wide, and two stories high, of which the lower floor is used for preparing, dyeing, and bleaching, and the upper floor for stock, drying and packing. An addition to this main building contains boiler and pump room, and there are other

These suspenders are more expensive to make than any others, because unlike others the trimmings and not the webs are the most costly portion. No iron or steel is used in their composition, and in their manufacture skilled labor is absolutely necessary and to five times the amount required in the making of ordinary trimmings: but as they are adjustable to any web "in one moment's time and with no appliances except the fingers," they would be from this fact alone, if from no other, a superior article. They are made in three grades; namely, No. 1 at \$4.50 a dozen, which is a corded web of twenty-three strands of rubber, in white modes and fancy stripes, also in "Jacquard" loom web; No. 2 at \$6 a dozen, also a fine corded web of twenty-eight strands of rubber of different patterns; and No. 3, a finer web of imported stock, with thirty-six strands of rubber and six different patterns, sold for \$7 a dozen. These latter retail for a dollar a pair, and this enables the dealer to make an excellent profit. For a still higher price — \$8 a dozen — the company will furnish this article with "a hand made, curb link chain, with every link hard soldered." In this the chain is made "exactly like the best watch chains, and is very finely finished."

Like most inventions "of merit," this at first met with great opposition, but the members of the firm had enough of the necessary perseverance, and what is now termed "push," to overcome the obstacles in their way, and they have already reached a position which assures them an established reputation and success. They have twice been obliged to increase their facilities for production, and orders are increasing in a highly satisfactory manner. A patent has been taken out in England, as well as in this country, and orders from there have been received. These have also come from France, South America, Mexico, West Indies, and Canada. As yet the manufacture has not become very generally known in the Western and Southern States, but it doubtless soon will be, for under date of December, 1887, one of the partners writes: "We have to-day received orders from dealers in Alabama, North Carolina, Tennessee, Arkansas, Illinois, Minnesota, Texas, Maine, New York, and last but not least our own Old Bay State." At the time of the above writing the company were engaged in putting new machinery into their shop, and they expected after January 1, 1888, to be able to turn out 2,000 dozen pairs of suspenders per month.

It is needless to enlarge upon so patent a fact as the great importance of introducing, to at least some extent, new interests requiring skilled artisans into the now two towns of Attleborough. The success which has so speedily followed the commendable efforts of this firm may and should stimulate and encourage other young men to make similar efforts, though in varied directions, for in that way only does it seem possible that the future prosperity of the two towns, in so many ways still one, can be assured to a degree in any way commensurate with the remarkable prosperity of the past.

There has always been a variety of manufacturing carried on in town on a

larger or smaller scale, one many of the establishments have had only a brief existence, and have been discontinued entirely — in the case of the older ones leaving little more than a memory to us. About 1800 there was a small place on the river later owned by the Tilton House, and here twenty Scotsmen were employed in cotton-spinning business. They spun upon wheels and bedticking on hand-looms. This must have been the earliest manufactory of cotton goods in town. These men were all from Scotland or the north of Ireland; one of them, William Riley, father of James Riley, of North Attleborough, must mention Hugh MacPherson, father of Daniel MacPherson and grandfather of the late Daniel Phanson, as the name has latterly been called.

There have been at least four nail factories, and all on the Lenox River, and it would seem all in operation at the beginning of this century. There was one in Plainville, — then a part of Attleborough, — the Beaver Dam factory already mentioned; one at the Falls, and the other the Deantown factory where Ephraim and Asa Dean made all kinds of nails. From, perhaps, 1803 or 1804 until about seven or eight years later, these appear to have been the industries of the town, and the manufacture of nails became a considerable one. Ephraim and Asa Dean built the factory at Deantown, and after it passed out of their possession it was converted into a cotton mill by the late Dr. Alfred Martin. Still later H. M. Daggett rented it for the purpose of making yarn and knitting cotton, and after that it remained unoccupied as a manufactory for some years. Recently it has been occupied by O. P. Richardson & Co., manufacturers of Shovel Iron. Mr. Richardson had before him O. P. Richardson, Jr., composed that firm, which was connected in the business up to the time of the former's death. The business was never a large one. [Its latest use has been that of a public laundry. The once attractive little village surrounding it has almost passed out of existence. The old mill tenement house, the old Barney house, and recently the Dorrance Dean house have been destroyed by fire. The picturesque prettiness of the place is now gone, and of its former oldtime peaceful beauty little but unsightly ruins remain.]

It is said the nail factory at the Falls stood near the upper end of the pond. At the same time, prominent in the public mind among those said to be interested in that work were Sylvester Everett, Jonas and James Richardson, and Dr. Thomas Stanley. There was formerly a tannery on the north side of Elm Street in North Attleborough, and the vats occupied the low grounds near, by the river. The exact date of its existence is not known, or anything of the amount of business it had. Near this tannery was "the first shop built on the company's privileges," and it was used by David Whiting for turning hubs and wheels.

Some distance farther down Elm Street iron ore was found and quarried very early in this century. It was carried to some adjoining town to be

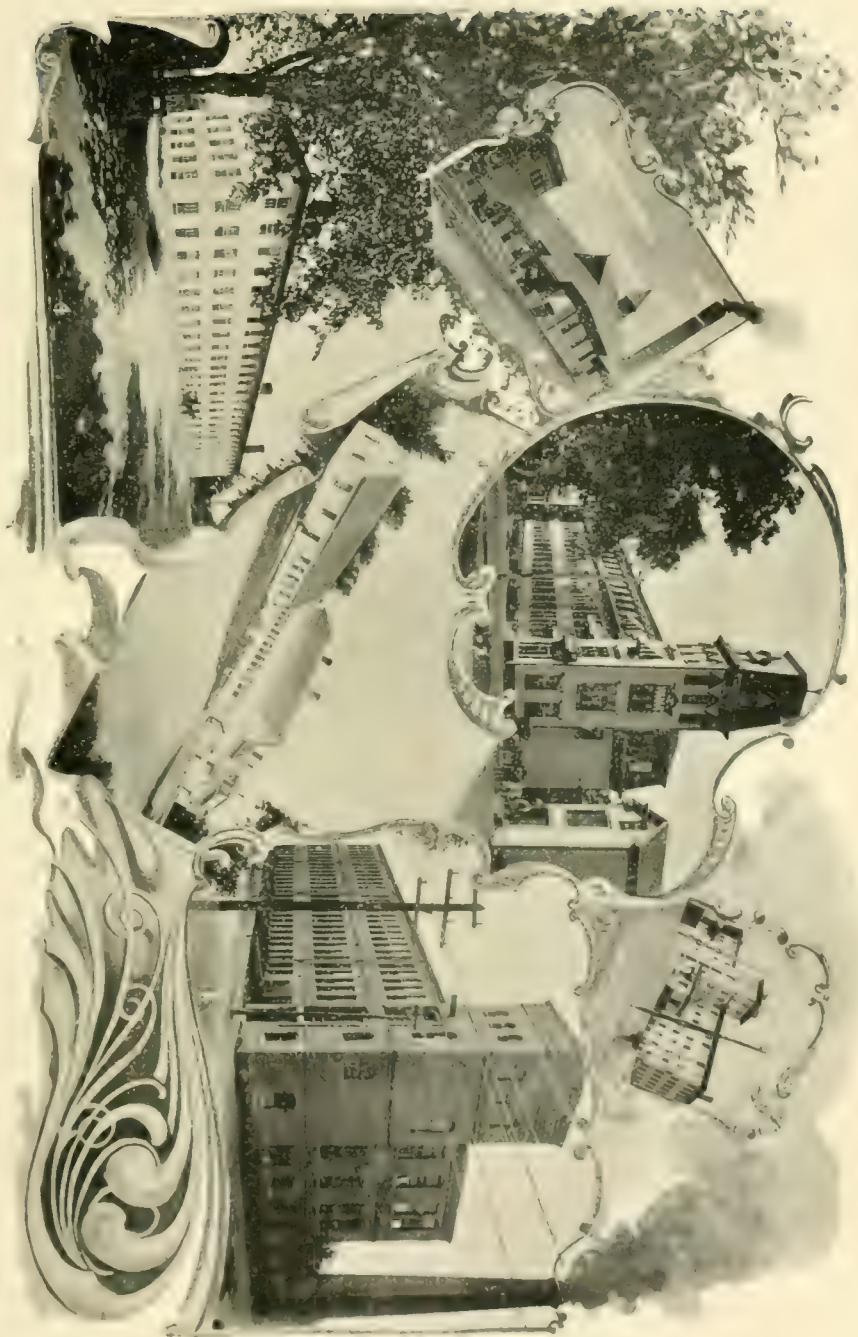
smelted, but to which one is not told. This industry did not continue long, and nothing seems to be known regarding its size. Combs have been made at times, the largest manufacturers having been TIFT & WHITING. In addition to their jewelry business E. I. RICHARDS & Co. made hooks and eyes for a number of years. This became an occupation of considerable amount and gave employment to many girls and women in fastening the hooks and eyes upon the cards. These were carried out from the shop and distributed in the houses about the town, and the work was done there. For a long time many ladies and some children were very industrious braiders of straw, and some of them sewers also. This work was in some instances a means of livelihood and in many others as an adjunct to the daily household labor (for it was done in the homes) it proved a convenient and agreeable method of earning "pin money." Straw manufacturing was also carried on in East Attleborough in what used to be called the "Straw-shop," now Briggs' Hotel, on South Main Street, and in another shop across the railroad. It continued for some years and for a time was quite flourishing, but ended in failure.

Bricks have been made in several places, it is said. From 1860 to 1870 Joseph Eldredge carried on that business, making some two hundred thousand annually. They could scarcely have found a very ready sale in town, as at that time there were very few buildings constructed of brick, and the number is very limited even now. The manufacture of glass buttons and steps was commenced about 1828 by Richard Everett, and a few years later he was employing four hands. Virgil Blackinton was also manufacturing glass steps at the same time and employed two hands. Jesse F. Richards and Edwin Ellis about the same time began the business of making brass butts and castings and other kinds of brass works. How long any of these establishments continued is not known. For some years hoopskirts were made in East Attleborough by Ira M. Conant in a wooden building on Railroad Avenue, near where the old depot stood. This was at a comparatively recent time, probably "about war times" or later.

There are other industries represented in town, but those mentioned comprise the largest. There are fifteen or sixteen blacksmiths, a brush and a bracket manufactory, one confectioner, and one cigar-maker. There are two gristmills and a grain elevator, four harness and saddle makers, two makers of knit goods, three machinery manufacturers, —all makers of jewelers' tools,—two picture-frame makers, three printing and publishing houses, two wood-turners, one washing-machine maker, three cider and vinegar makers, two of which make native wines from the grapes of their own vineyards, and two establishments where monumental and cemetery work is done. The largest of these wine and cider makers are H. K. W. Allen and G. W. and A. L. Allen, of the western part of the town. The former has been engaged in this business for many years, and his is one of

considerable extent. He has also paid special attention to the making of communion wine. This is sent to mission stations at Egypt, Briton, India, China, etc. There is an agent at the Board of Foreign Missions in Tremont Temple, Boston, and another in Providence. This is called an unfermented wine, and Mr. Allen makes also a fermented wine. This is much used in sickness. A silver medal and diploma were awarded him at the Fairness and Medicines Association, held in October, 1883. Mr. Allen had at one time quite an extensive vineyard, but a few years since he lost some thousands of his vines, and these have not been replaced. He has never made over seventy whiskey barrels full of wine in one year, and recently he has been making about half as much and about one half as much for a little more of the unfermented wine as of the other. This business has long been, and is now, well known.

The mere mention of the smaller enterprises serves to show that some of our citizens are kept occupied in making other things besides jewelry, and recent efforts to introduce still further varieties of occupation on a larger scale than for some time previous give fair promise for the future should the chief business begin to show signs of failure. Although jewelry is beyond all comparison *the* industry of our town, the scanty record here given is sufficient to show that other and large industries have had and still have a firm foothold here, and without that immense business by which we are chiefly distinguished the manufactures of the town could not be called wholly unimportant.



1. North Attleborough Pumping and Electric Station.
2. Richards Shops.
3. Gold Medal Braint Co. Shop.
4. Whitney's Shop.
5. Old Button Shop and B. S. Freeman & Co. Shops.
6. Whitney Shop.

CHAPTER XIII.

MANUFACTURES, CONTINUED. — JEWELRY MANUFACTORIES, ETC.

THIS great enterprise, which has assumed enormous proportions and given Attleborough a world-wide reputation, had its commencement with the very earliest manufactures in town. It was in the year 1780 that a Frenchman began to make jewelry in North Attleborough, but of what kind tradition appears to say nothing. His factory was the brick forge which stood on the site of the old shop on the premises of the late Jesse F. Richards. This little factory, where, in connection with jewelry, it is said he made brass butts, was taken down in 1810. Very little is known of this Frenchman, not even his name. He was called "the foreigner," but for what reason no one seems to know. It must have been his universal title, since his name has been entirely forgotten, and very probably was bestowed upon him because that name was difficult of pronunciation. The existence at that time of a strong sympathy between America and France, which nation was deeply interested in the birth of our new republic, would naturally prevent any tinge of opprobrium from being attached to the epithet, as has been the case in many instances. This man was perhaps with one exception the only "alien" in town at that period, the other being the Frenchman Richaud, living in South Attleborough.

To this no doubt deft and clever stranger we must look as the founder of our greatest industry. His hand planted the tiny seed which grew and multiplied until it has become a grove of giant trees, with wide extending branches whose blossoms adorn not only unnumbered thousands in our own land, but in many other lands as well. This business is the bone and sinew of our town's growth, the backbone of her prosperity, and in the century of its existence the one small manufactory has increased more than a hundredfold. As some one suggests, Lafayette's espousal of the cause of the colonies may have turned the attention of his fellow-countrymen to America, for it was during the days of the Revolution that the Frenchman came here and began to work. For the first fifty years the progress of the industry thus begun was very slow. Its marvelously rapid growth has been in the second fifty years, and notably during the latter half of the second half-century.

To show what advancement had been made at the end of fifty years, the account prepared for the author's previous work on the town is transcribed verbatim: —

* MANUFACTORY OF JEWELRY — *Drapet, Tilton & Co.* — commenced in 1821. They now manufacture, annually, to the amount of \$15-20,000 worth.

They employ from 12 to 15 hands—part of these females. The building—adapted for this business—is two stories high, 40 feet by 22. Sales of the manufactures are made principally at New York and Philadelphia. Their business centered once in a large amount the manufacture of Patent Brass Door-Knobs or Fasteners. The establishment is located on the Turnpike near Hick's Hotel.

• Harvey M. Richards has established a Jewelry Shop near the Union House on the Turnpike,—manufactures a variety of articles, watch keys, finger-rings, pearl chains, breast pins, &c. —commenced in 1831—employs 12 hands—3 females.—Amount of manufacture about \$8,000 per year. The building is 2 stories, 32 feet by 30. He rents another shop on the same road, which employs 5 workmen.

• Samuel Phillips' Jewelry Shop, near the city,—employs about 6 hands—manufactures the usual variety. Alfred Barrows has also established a workshop of the same kind.

• Richards & Price have a Jewelry Shop—commenced in 1840—employs 6 hands—situated between the Turnpike and the Falls Factory.

• Dennis Everett's Jewelry Shop—commenced business in 1841—employs now 4 hands."

After the Frenchman the first firm was formed—that of Colonel Obed Robinson, at Robinsonville. His shop was the first one ever erected expressly for this manufacture in town. It was "the little yellow house," still remembered by many, which stood opposite the present residence of Mr. R. T. Simmons, and is now converted into a French-modelled cottage. There seem to have been several members in this firm, but whether all at the same time is not known. Besides Obed Robinson there were Otis Robinson, his brother, Milton Barrows, grandfather of Mr. H. F. Barrows, and Mark Baldwin,—prominent in the famous rifle corps,—who were connected with it. This firm commenced operations about 1807, and made chiefly carbon jewelry. In its employ was one David Brown, who was called "a skilled workman in that art." Perhaps he had been taught the trade by "the foreigner."

The next establishment was that of Manning Richards, who, about 1810, built a little shop on his farm "at the head of the Cumberland Road." He conducted business alone, and was successful for a number of years.

Next came the firm of Draxton, Frier & Co. The original members were Josiah Draper, John Tift, and Ira Richards, and as has been stated the firm was formed in 1821. The account above given shows that in a few years quite a degree of success and prosperity attended. During the year 1834 Ira Richards withdrew & thus the firm became another with himself and nephew, and he was succeeded by George Horr. The same name continued until 1850. In that year Mr. Horr withdrew, and Joseph T. Bacon took his place. The name was then changed to Draxton, Frier & Bacon. In 1851 John

Tift died, and soon after a new firm was formed with Frank S. Draper, Frank L. Tift, and James D. Lincoln as partners, under the original name of DRAPER, TIFT & Co. The next change was in 1859, when F. S. Draper went out of the firm and the name became LINCOLN, TIFT & BACON. Previous to this time the business had been moved to Plainville. In 1862 in order the better to comply with the internal revenue laws, the Plainville name was changed to J. F. BACON & Co., and the New York name became LINCOLN, TIFT & Co. This arrangement continued until 1877, when Frank L. Tift died. No change of names was effected, however, until three years later, in 1880, when Harland G. Bacon, the son of J. T. Bacon, and Dan. Schofield, formerly salesman in the New York office, were admitted to the firm, which then assumed the name of LINCOLN, BACON & Co. This name it still retains, and continues to conduct its business in Plainville.

The original firm was the first notable one in town, and it became one of the largest, if not the very largest of its day, in the country. It may be said to have had an existence of fifty-six years, from 1821 till 1877, when, by the death of Mr. Frank Tift, the last representative of the original founders was removed, though, as has been seen, his name, one of the old familiar ones, was retained until some years later.

RICHARDS & PRICE, already mentioned, was the next firm to organize. The members were Calvin Richards and George Price. They continued but a few years. The shop they built in 1830, opposite the residence of Mr. Price, was a very large one for that date, and was the third one erected in town. S. S. Daggett was a later partner, but the old firm entirely ceased to exist with the retirement of Mr. Price in 1856. Mr. Richards after his retirement built a shop where Mr. Abiel Coddling now lives, and continued there in the same business.

Next in date was Dennis Everett, who began in 1831 at South Attleborough, with Otis Stanley for a partner. They made watchchains and keys. After a short time this firm removed to North Attleborough, and took a room in Calvin Richards' shop. When Mr. Stanley retired is not known, but about 1836 Mr. Everett built a shop for himself, had Isaac Bailey for a partner for a time, and finally changed his business to the making of eye-protectors, and glass steps for cotton frames. This business has no representative in existence.

E. IRA RICHARDS & Co. is the oldest firm in town, though it exists at present under a name of comparatively recent date. It began in 1833, when Hervey M. and Edmund Ira Richards formed a partnership under the name of H. M. & E. I. RICHARDS. In 1834 the name was changed to IRA RICHARDS & Co. by the entrance of Ira Richards. In 1836 H. M. Richards retired, and George Morse and Virgil Draper became members, the name remaining unchanged. In 1841 the two last-named gentlemen withdrew, and Abiel Coddling entered the firm. The original building erected by this firm

not long after its establishment stood about where the present one stands. The second one was built on to the first about forty years ago, and the present one, probably not far from twenty years old, is as large as any, if not the largest, in town.

In 1842, upon the death of Mr. Ira Richards, J. D. Richards became partner in the former firm. E. I. Richards, consisting of the Richards brothers and Mr. Coddling, continued unchanged for thirty years, and it was during their copartnership that the great business of the concern was built up. In 1875 the firm was dissolved, not so much because it was regarded as consisting of E. I. Richards, F. B. and Charles I. Richards, and E. I. Richards, as because the name of E. I. Richards & Co. Since the death of Ira Richards the familiar name has always been, and often is still, E. I. Richards & Co. Hence the present firm differs but secondarily from the former, and perhaps in fact.

In 1882 E. I. Richards retired, and the death of Mr. E. I. Richards occurred. In 1883 Lucy M. Richards became a member of the firm. In 1884 F. B. Richards retired, and the firm now comprises E. I. and Lucy M. Richards. Five of the gentlemen formerly connected with this firm are dead; namely, Messrs. Ira, H. M., and E. I. Richards, and Messrs. Morse and Draper. [Mrs. Richards has since died.]

This company has always conducted its manufacturing upon the same spot in North Attleborough. It has offices in New York, Philadelphia, and San Francisco. It has had no specialties, but since becoming thoroughly established has manufactured a complete line of rolled plated jewelry. For many years the firm was the largest in town and for a long period far outranked all others, as it employed an average of from two hundred to two hundred and twenty-five hands. These figures refer to a period when firms were small, fewer in number, and only one or two, and they are therefore comparatively much larger, though even at the present time there are but one or two establishments that give employment to so large a number of workmen. For assortment of its goods, measurability, and consistent variety and good quality these have never been excelled in any of our manufactories. From the very first it has been prosperous, its first successes almost unprecedented, and its prosperity has continued through fifty years without serious interruptions. Its widespread and high reputation has been well earned; it holds a most important place in the business history of this town, and so long as jewelry is connected with the name of Attleborough, we may well be proud of E. I. Richards & Co. as our pioneers.

STEPHEN RICHARDSON & CO. In 1830 or 1831 this firm was organized, Stephen Richardson and Abiel Coddling being its members. Their first shop was a little building on the south side of Elm Street, near the Ten Mile River, put up by Mr. Richardson at a cost of \$400, and they employed ten hands. Mr. Coddling left the firm in 1839. In 1840 Mr. Richardson

moved to Calvin Richards' shop, on the site where Mr. Coddling's house now stands, and the working force was doubled. Three years later he made another move: to DRAPER, TRILL & Co.'s shop near Hatch's tavern. Previous to this removal David Capron had become his partner under the style of STEPHEN RICHARDSON & Co.; but at this time he retired and Samuel R. Miller took his place, and the name was changed to RICHARDSON & MILLER.

At that period it was the custom for someone to take the goods manufactured and travel about the country to sell them and this firm was very successful in that way. Their quarters soon became too limited and in 1848 Mr. Richardson built a new shop 40 feet by 30, and two stories high. Here forty hands were employed and the business done became so large as to soon demand a doubling of facilities. Many of the firms used to exhibit their goods in the rooms of the old Western Hotel in New York, but in 1854 Mr. Miller opened an office for this one at No. 21 Maiden Lane. He withdrew in 1856 and Mr. Richardson was alone for two years or more. In 1859 his son Clarence H. Richardson became his partner, and the name became STEPHEN RICHARDSON & SON. The New York office was changed to No. 177 Broadway and one opened in Philadelphia.

In 1870 the factory was burned and another built immediately and much larger, where a hundred and thirty-five hands were employed. A large trade with Cuban and European ports was established. Mr. Richardson's death occurred in 1877 and since that time the son has continued the business under the same name. In 1882 the firm was again burned out and room for the manufacturing was found in Whiting's building. For about twenty-five years this company has made a great variety of articles—chains and novelties in gold, silver, copper, or brass—anything the market called for. This was the first of our firms to ship goods to Europe and a few years ago it began to ship to Japan, the first and only one in town to send to that country. This has been a very large and exceptionally successful establishment. [Has passed out of existence.]

About 1837 W. H. Robinson began his career in this vocation in the old button shop at West Attleborough. During the same year he built a brick shop upon his own farm in that vicinity. S. L. Daggett had become a partner at that time, and the firm name was DAGGETT & ROBINSON. When Mr. Daggett retired is not known, but William Guild became a member in 1840 and in 1850 the name became ROBINSON & Co. This firm at one time had quite a large business and employed as many as forty hands. Mr. Robinson remained a partner until about the time of his death. In 1868 the firm consisted of his three sons, D. H., E. A., and W. H. Robinson, Jr.

Edwin A. Robinson retired in 1870 and went to Providence. He came from there to East Attleborough in 1875, bought "the Bailey property,"

and built a large brick factory five stories high including the basement. He occupies one floor himself and makes a variety of specialties, such as plated rings, chains, collar buttons, snuffpans, stons, lacquers, etc. He has within a few years built another large factory.

Israel H. Robinson still continues the manufacturing under the old name of Robinson & Co., and in the same brick shop built by his father, one of the oldest in town. His specialty is the "red stone" snuffpans, stons, and drops.

HAYWARD & BURGESS, now HAYWARD & SWEET. This is one of the oldest companies extant. The senior member of the former firm, the late Charles L. Hayward, was among the pioneers in jewelry manufacturing in East Atholborough. In 1831 he came from North Atholborough to the Mechanics, where with Archibald Thompson, S. M. Lewis, and S. N. Carpenter he started a company under the name of THOMPSON, HAYWARD & Co. This was after the Carpenters had suspended operations in the cotton mill and while their affairs were in process of settlement. The two last-named gentlemen retired in about four years and Mr. Thompson, at the same time or soon after, for in 1855 Mr. Hayward associated with himself Mr. Jonathan Edges, they together founding the well-known firm of HAYWARD & BURGESS, the name and partnership continuing for thirty years.

In 1859 the firm was burned out in the Steam Power Building fire. This fire, which burned four shops, occurred in the night, and before morning Mr. Hayward had hired a place to which he removed the business temporarily, until the new Steam Power Company's building, immediately erected, was in readiness. In 1873 the firm erected the large shop known as Hayward's building, a part of which they occupied, and where their successors still remain. No firm in town ever gained a better reputation than this one, and that good reputation has been steadily maintained. Fine plated goods in great variety have been made by them and their quality can be best described by the statement that only 18 k. gold was used in their production, the goods proving always and strictly what they purported to be. Theirs was for many years the largest and most important business in the East village. It gave employment to one hundred and twenty workmen and supplied an extensive market with both handsome and substantial goods. These were sold in New York under charge of Mr. Burgess, who resided here, while Mr. Hayward had some superintendence of the manufactory here.

To 1881 (1882) the old firm was dissolved and Walter E. Hayward became associated with his father, under the name of C. E. HAYWARD & Co. In May, 1886, Mr. Hayward died and the son continued alone, until in 1887 George L. Sweet became his partner and the present name of HAYWARD & SWEET was assumed.

HAYWARD & BURGESS trained a generation in the art of jewelry making.

and the name will be remembered as a synonym of justice, honesty, and probity in mercantile transactions in the annals of our great industry through many a coming generation.

B. S. FREEMAN & Co. The first name of this firm was **FREEMAN & Bro.**, its members Benjamin S. and Joseph J. Freeman, and their business was established in 1847 in a portion of their father's house at the Falls. They began with twenty-five hands, or thereabouts, and continued for several years in that place and then moved into the shop next the Falls mill, which had been built for them. About 1855 Virgil Richards became a member of the firm and Co. was added to the name. In 1858 property was purchased at Robinsonville and at once occupied, and at the same time the brothers bought out Mr. Richards and resumed the former name. They began soon, and among the earliest in town, to make rolled plated goods, vest chains being one of their specialties. After moving to Robinsonville they commenced the manufacture of curb-chains.

J. J. Freeman bought an imported curb-chain and after making many experiments he reached the desired result in constructing machinery to make rolled plated curb-chains successfully. These were the first made in Attleborough and were known as "Freeman's curb-chains"; they were made in large quantities and sold extensively. In 1860 the firm became **FREEMAN & Co.**, and soon after a temporary change was effected in the kind of goods manufactured, a change which was demanded by the war. Articles were made which were needed for soldiers' use, such as war badges, brass chains, and even military buttons.

In 1879 Joseph J. Freeman died, and the name was changed to the present one of **B. S. FREEMAN & Co.** Mr. Freeman was an ingenious man, possessing many ideas of his own and naturally an inventor. He was clever in making designs and had the mechanical skill necessary to execute them. Much of the credit for the large measure of success attained by this company is due to him. **B. S. Freeman, Jr.**, was admitted to the firm in 1882, and no further changes have occurred. Solid rolled plate goods is the make of this firm, chiefly chains and bracelets, and prosperity has attended it from the beginning. When business is brisk from fifty to sixty hands are employed, and sometimes a larger number. Its New York office is at 194 Broadway.

J. F. STURDY & Co. started soon after **FREEMAN & Bro.** Mr. Sturdy had previously been in business in Providence, first as a maker of dies and later of jewelry, with his brother, James H. Sturdy, and while they were together there they discovered the process of making what is now called rolled or stock plate. They came to Robinsonville, and on September 7, 1849, the company was organized as **DRAPER, STURDY & Co.** and consisted of J. F. and J. H. Sturdy and Herbert M. Draper. They introduced the manufacture of *rolled gold plated stock and jewelry* into the town of Attle-

Sturdy. The steel generally imported in certain other countries is known among these persons of making this rolled plate, which was so easily cut and bent, and the result has been a very general adoption of their method.

September 9, 1859, J. H. Sturdy retired, and September 16, 1861, James A. Mann entered the firm. Some further changes took place, and finally J. A. Perry and E. Dins became associated with Mr. Sturdy under the general style of J. E. Sturdy & Co. They at 1861 began manufacturing curb-chains of rolled plate. This partnership ended in about a year, and Mr. Sturdy remained in the business alone for thirteen years. In 1875 his son, Frederick E. became associated with him, and in 1879 his two other sons, Herbert K. and Frank M. Sturdy, continuing the name assumed in 1861. These four gentlemen are still the members of this firm, which, through its continuance of almost forty years at what is now the Falls, has done a fair business and been steadily successful.

F. G. Wootsey & Co. F. G. Whitney and F. W. Davenport formed this firm in 1849 and began operations in a building now standing on East Street, North Attleborough. In 1852 they built and occupied the shop which later became the carriage-shop of JOHN STANLEY & SON. Henry Dunster subsequently entered the firm, and in 1853 Mr. Davenport withdrew. In 1859 new quarters were taken in E. I. Richards' factory, and Franklin W. was admitted to partnership, remaining till 1871, when he retired. About that time the present firm name was adopted; but what its previous titles were the writer does not know. In 1873 the business was moved to the Company's factory, and it became very flourishing, the employees numbering all the way from one to two hundred.

In 1876 Mr. Whitney built a large factory for himself at Davis' bridge, Chestnut Street, one hundred and fifty feet by thirty-five, and three stories in height. This was subsequently burned and immediately rebuilt. The business is at present conducted by George B. and Edwin F. Whitney, sons of the founder of the firm. The goods of the old firm were of brasswork, every kind of fancy goods and novelties called for by the caprices of the market. The manufacture at present is oxidized and silver-plated articles — lacepins, cuff-buttons, clasps, buckles, bracelets, hairpins, and collarettes, and also a great variety of articles in fire-gilt and electro-plate. This was among the earliest establishments where inexpensive jewelry was manufactured, and it supplies both a foreign and domestic market. It has an office in Broadway, New York. (This firm has ceased to exist.)

WHITE & SHAW. This is the oldest representative of the jewelry trade in South Attleborough. The firm was organized in 1852 and is the oldest in town bearing a never-changed name. At first the manufacture was of brass jewelry, but for some time has been that of jewelers' findings. The shop is a little out of the centre of the village. In the ordinary good conditions of business the employees here number ten to twelve.

H. F. BARROWS & Co. This firm bears the name it bore originally, the addition of "Co." excepted, and during the thirty-five years of its existence has had but one other change. It is one of the oldest and largest in the town. The senior member, Henry F. Barrows, began for himself in 1853 in the old shop near the Braid mill, or Falls factory. The following year James H. Sturdy entered into partnership with him under the style of **BARROWS & STURDY**, and in 1856 they removed to the Richards factory in North Attleborough. In 1857 Mr. Sturdy withdrew, and Louis A. Barrows and E. S. Richards entered the firm, which took the name of **H. F. BARROWS & Co.** Louis A. Barrows died in 1860. In 1862 or 1863 Mr. Richards retired and for more than twenty years thereafter H. F. Barrows, Sr., constituted the firm, though his two sons as they became old enough became connected with the business. On January 1, 1887, they were both admitted to the firm, whose members now are H. F., Ira, and H. F. Barrows, Jr.

About 1862 the firm removed to their own manufactory on Broad Street, where they still remain. Mr. Barrows commenced with from six to ten workmen, and now the average number in his firm's employ is one hundred and twenty-five, with sometimes an increase. With the association of the last-named partners the old custom of monthly payment of wages was changed to semi-monthly, a custom adopted frequently at the present time. Mr. Barrows began among the earliest to make rolled plate, — doubtless from his association with Mr. Sturdy, — and no change has since been made in the character of the manufacture, which is the best of its kind. Great varieties and many patterns of goods have been made to respond to the call of the market from time to time, and at present the specialty is chains. The New York office of this firm is at 177 Broadway. It is in the charge especially of Ira Barrows, who has a residence in that city.

H. D. MERRITT & Co. In 1855 H. D. Merritt and J. B. Draper started in business together in the Richards factory as **MERRITT & DRAPER**. In 1870 they removed to Mansfield, and while the business was being conducted there Mr. Draper retired from it. John Shepardson took his place and the firm its present name. In 1872 the business was brought back to its former place, where it increased and prospered. Mr. Merritt died in 1878, and Mr. Shepardson took as a partner C. H. Miller. The firm continues under the same name, making rolled plate and silver goods. [Mrs. H. D. Merritt and W. W. Sherman are present partners.]

C. E. W. SHERMAN & SON. As we have seen, a Frenchman established the manufacturing of jewelry in town, and it was by means of a Frenchman also that jewelers here were first enabled to get their clippings and sweepings refined. One used to "stop over" in North Attleborough on his way to Boston, and going from shop to shop make collections of these infinitesimal fragments in a handkerchief and take them to that city for the necessary process. Later, these materials were sent to New York, and this continued

to be the meeting until July, 1854, at which time Mr. Sherman and George K. Derby, as GEORGE K. DAVIS & CO., began operations in this branch of the jewelry business. Their shop was near the DAVIS bridge on the Fall Mill River. This partnership was dissolved in two or three years. Mr. Sherman then went himself to shop on Pine Street, where the firm now is, and transacted business for himself till the autumn of 1875, when his son, William W. Sherman, became associated with him under the present name. The fact that ten years ago (from \$30,000 to \$50,000 worth of gold) was annually obtained by this firm from clippings, etc., shows the size and importance of its special work, and within a few years this amount has probably about doubled.

To the work of gold and silver refiners the firm add that of assayers and smelters and manufacturers of blue vitriol. Mr. Sherman's was the first firm of its kind in town, and for a long period it continued to be the only one.

Within a few years an establishment of a similar kind has been started in East Attleborough, that of BARBER & BURLINGAME, who also deal in various supplies for the trade. [Not in existence.]

BATES & BACON. The origin of this firm dates back to the well-remembered year of 1847, the time of a general depression and prostration of business and of widespread financial difficulties. On September 10 of that year the firm of SKINNER, VEECH & CO., of which J. M. Bates was a member, started in a room over Blackinton's shuttle-shop. At the end of a year, in which the business had not been large even for those times, Mr. Bates had come to the conclusion that more "push" was required to satisfy his ambition. He therefore sold out his interest in the above-mentioned firm and formed a new one, that of BATES, CAPRON & WILLIAMS, and located in the Falls factory, now that of the GOLD MEDAL BRAID CO. Two years of prosperity followed this new organization and then, Mr. Bates' partners desiring a change of location, he sold out to William Sherman. This company removed to Mansfield but was unfortunate, and after a few years relinquished business. Such also was the experience of Mr. Bates' original partners; they were not successful and therefore retired from the jewelry business altogether.

On leaving the Falls Mr. Bates returned to his old place in the shuttle-shop and did a moderately good business there for three years. Then he removed to the East village and occupied the lower story of the Steam Power Company's building. The effect of the war was favorable to Mr. Bates, for not long after its commencement his business began to flourish, and after a year of marked prosperity, and this continued until 1867. At that time a competitor had been built up and Mr. Bates' business began to take a tumble. George M. Bacon, a quondam free partnership with him, and together they went from the shop of BART & LYONS. Mr. Bacon at once joined a "diamond company." He has since his retirement of the concern and has

always filled that difficult position with remarkable success. He greatly enlarged and extended the sales of the firm's goods, and during the twenty years of this partnership so far an increase has been continually maintained.

In these days of almost unlimited competition, not only in this but in almost every branch of trade, the office of salesman is no sinecure but one of varied and difficult requirements. Nerve, activity, determination, a pleasing address, agreeable manners, the power of adaptation to all places, circumstances, and people, a thorough knowledge of his own line of traffic, and about as much of his neighbors', are some of the characteristics needed. The complete salesman must be ever alert, quick to see and seize chances, and conversant with every phase of the entire market; he must be endowed with a great amount of diplomacy—indeed be able to turn refusal into acceptance, either by his own "power of persuasion" or by the medium of an open purse and a generous hand. In a word, his state must always be that of "up and doing," lest another step in before him and win the prize. What he has accomplished for his firm proves Mr. Bacon to be the happy possessor of at least a goodly share of these requisites.

The specialty of this firm has always been rolled-gold plated bracelets, although it has made jewelry of almost every description. It employs a large number of hands—in the busiest seasons as many as two hundred. In 1882 Messrs. Bates and Bacon made an innovation by introducing into Attleborough the manufacture of watchcases. They make these both filled and of 14k. gold. The venture proved a good one, for the growth of the business has been constant and they now turn out one hundred and fifty cases a day. A few years ago additional space was required, and in 1884 Mr. Bates built a shop 200 feet long, 35 feet wide, and four stories high, which the firm now occupies. The paydays here are monthly—on the fifteenth instant. This is the largest firm in East Attleborough.¹

G. A. DEAN & Co. In January, 1857, A. M. Everett, G. A. Dean, S. L. Morse, E. S. Capron, and R. Bliss organized as EVERETT, DEAN & Co. S. L. Morse left the firm in November, 1858, and E. S. Capron in May, 1859. In January, 1860, B. B. Day became a partner and the name was changed to EVERETT, DAY & Co. A. M. Everett's withdrawal in July, 1867, necessitated another change in name and that of DAY, BLISS & DEAN was taken. Mr. Day died in January, 1871, and the business was then continued in the name of BLISS & DEAN, Rodolphus Bliss and George A. Dean being the partners. Mr. Bliss died in August, 1883, and in the following January the present name was adopted. Mr. Dean, its present representative, is the only one of the five original members left in the business. Of the six gentlemen associated in it during its existence three are dead and the other two, Mr.

¹ Messrs. Bates and Bacon have increased their capital to \$100,000. At the death of Mr. Bacon, in 1884, Mr. Bates introduced the name of DEAN & BATES.

FRUIT and Mr. Conant from the same place have engaged in different vocations.

At the present time good lands were available. As with other towns, the number of farms has had a varying frequency, but during the past fifty years the average has been about seventy-five. Though several crops of grain have been raised, none have taken place in the history of the town's development. There have been always a few farms, and for many years clover, turnips, and timothy, though formerly lockets were also made. The people have made an excellent class of goods and met with an abundant quantity of success. It has long become one of the most solid and substantial among the part of the town. Its New York store is at 39 Broadway.

BEARD & CARPENTER, successors to STURDY BROS. & Co. July 11, 1866. Charles H. and Albert W. Sturdy formed a partnership under the name of STURDY BROTHERS, both having previously had similar experience in leather manufacturing. They located in one of the Steam Power Company's buildings and were burned out within three months in the great fire which destroyed all that Company's shops. They saved some tools and moved temporarily to Mansfield. The Steam Power Company immediately rebuilt — if we remember rightly, a large new shop was completed in sixty days after the foundations were laid, under the efficient management of the late Jesse R. Carpenter, and in the autumn of 1861 STURDY BROTHERS returned to town and located in this new building.

Meanwhile during the summer of that year A. W. Sturdy had returned and through the two years of his service C. H. Sturdy carried on the business alone. The early days of the war were "dull times," but in 1863 "business throughout the country revived under the impetus of the paper money issued by the government," and about that time Mr. Albert Sturdy received his discharge on account of a severe wound which unfitted him for further service, and returned home. Like many others at that period this firm took a "new lease of life." Between 1863 and the close of the war they made gold, silver, and rolled plate army badges in very large quantities, and also various emblems for the use of soldiers, such as regimental badges for their identification, etc.

When the demand for these articles ceased, STURDY BROTHERS turned their attention to the making of ladies' jewelry in rolled plate. These goods were not the best quality, and the firm was incorporated in 1871, retaining the producing first-class work and for many years carried on an extensive business in this line. C. H. Sturdy retired in July, 1871, and E. G. Webster, of Brooklyn, L. I., took a place in the firm and Co. was added to the old name. For fifteen or twenty years the number of employees varied from forty to eighty as the demands of the market warranted. The payroll averaged nearly \$4,000 per month, and the sales during many years reached \$100,000. For twenty years all the goods manufactured were sent to the Company's

office at No. 14 Maiden Lane, New York, but since 1882 they have been shipped from the factory here to their various destinations direct.

January 1, 1885, both partners sold out, and after a prosperous career of fully a quarter of a century the old name of **STURDY BROTHERS** ceased to exist. The new firm consists of James E. Blake, who was for a long period a salesman for the preceding firm, and Edward P. Claffin, for many years in their employ as foreman. Though he has relinquished all active participation, Mr. Albert Sturdy still retains a financial interest in the concern as a special partner. The prosperity which followed the course of the old firm still attends the new. The youthful element introduced has given new impetus to the former activity, and the future has a promising outlook. Some additions have been made to the previous line of goods, and certain lines of solid gold jewelry are now being manufactured. None of the members of this firm have died. One of those who retired is engaged in an entirely different occupation and the others are "enjoying the fruits of their labors."

Two years prior to the formation of the above-mentioned firm—in 1857—**V. H. BLACKINTON** purchased the old schoolhouse at Robinsonville and made it over into a manufactory. His first essay was in jet goods, in a line for ladies' use. This proved successful, the business increased, and additions were made to his shop. On February 15, 1869, it was burned, but rebuilt at once, and the same line of goods manufactured—jet, with the addition of novelties, military goods, society emblems, etc. Mr. Blackinton still continues in the same place, but his shop, instead of being as formerly in Robinsonville, on the "road to North Attleborough," is on Commonwealth Avenue, Attleborough Falls.

SHORT, NERNEY & Co. This firm has an existence of a quarter of a century. In 1862 Mace B. Short, Peter Nerney, and Ephraim Adams associated together as **NERNEY & Co.** The last-named partner remained only about nine months and Messrs. Nerney and Short continued until 1876. They began with the production of horn goods, then took up electro-plating, and, by general license, of all sorts and kinds of jewelry. In the autumn of 1876 James J. Horton entered the firm, which took its present title. At that time the electro-plating business was sold to **NERNEY & LINCOLN**, and the company took up the manufacture of all kinds of stock plated chains. For several years the "Nerney Patent Swivel" has also been made. This is an invention of Mr. Nerney, and he took out a patent on it in 1884.

The average number of workmen employed in this establishment in ordinary times is fifty, but this number is frequently increased to seventy-five and sometimes more. For 1886, which was a light year, the payroll amounted to over \$20,000. This firm has had a steady success for a number of years, and none has a better reputation. It has changed its location—is at present in No. 13 Mill Street, East Attleborough. It has no out-of-town office. [Changes have been made by the admission of some young men to the firm, but the name remains the same.]

E. I. Smith & Co.—Aboating the last mentioned firm by a few years, counting three, they had its beginning. E. Smith and David D. Coddling were the partners and the name Coddling & Smith. Like the reality of these gentlemen began in a small room and in a small way. At the end of a year they removed to Main-street Centre. The way entirely broke up their business and they were obliged to discontinue it and added to this misfortune the burning when their tools were stored was totally destroyed by fire in May, 1861, and they almost starved. They were not, however, permanently discouraged, and with the close of the war determined to try again. In July, 1865, they, together with C. H. Ames, commenced the business for the second time in North Attleborough, under the style of Coddling, Smith & Co., locating in Stephen Richardson's building. At the end of two years of adequate prospects Mr. Ames left the firm and A. E. Coddling entered, no change occurring in the name. At this time a complement of fifty hands was employed.

In January, 1867, the business was removed to the Dennis Everett factory, and in 1871 another move was made to the new factory erected by Mr. Richardson, where it remained about three years. While located there Mr. Smith brought out his two partners and carried on the business alone for a year. At the end of that time D. D. Coddling purchased a one-half interest, and the present firm name was taken. The business was transferred to the E. I. Richards building in 1880, and in January, 1881, Henry H. Curtis, a former salesman, was admitted as a partner in the firm. He subsequently withdrew, and E. A. Crawford has been admitted, and the present members are Messrs. Smith, Coddling and Crawford. Though its earlier days were full of difficulties and discouragements, sufficient even to annihilate it for a time, it has overcome them all and its later days have been filled with a highly satisfactory degree of prosperity. This firm ranks among the largest in town, as it has employed generally from ninety to a hundred and ten hands. Its specialties have been bracelets, pins, charms, etc. At present these are cut buttons and bow-knives.

J. J. & J. M. Richards.—In April, 1861, the firm of E. S. Richards & Co. started in the Company's building at North Attleborough. Its members were E. S. and J. M. Richards. E. S. Richards died in October, 1866, and his two brothers, J. J. and J. M. Richards, bought his interest. In January, 1866, they assumed the present firm name. In February, 1871, they moved their manufactory to Stephen Richardson's building, and five years later, in 1876, J. J. Richards, Jr., succeeded to his father's share in the business. The Richardson building was burned in April, 1882, and in the following July a location was found in Totten's building, and this is still retained. Of the three brothers formerly in this firm but one remains, for J. J. Richards died in August, 1882. In the beginning twenty hands were employed—seven dealers, their families, with an average weekly payroll

of \$700. The specialty here is gold front goods, and the firm has always been distinguished for the superior quality of its productions. There is a New York office connected with it.

J. W. LUTHER & Co. James W. and John W. Luther, brothers, started in January, 1865, in the Steam Power building. They remained there for ten years, and then took their present situation in the basement of E. A. Robinson's shop. They are lapidaries, and besides cutting and preparing real stones they also manufacture imitation stones for jewelers' use. They have at times done quite a large business in their line, employing fifteen to twenty workmen, and having a payroll of some \$500 per month. In this as in all other lines there are frequently temporary dull times, and this special branch of the trade is more affected by the changes in style than some others. Patterns in gold and silver goods may be readily changed, and profitably; but if the caprices of fashion demand neither real nor imitation gems, the worker in these must be comparatively idle — though there is always something to be done. This firm is one of excellent repute, and the Messrs. Luther are considered skilled workmen in their art.

F. S. DRAPER & Co. This firm was formed in 1865 by F. S. Draper, F. S. Bailey, and F. G. Pate, as **DRAPER, PATE & BAILEY**. The business was at first established in the Richards factory, and subsequently removed to the stone factory of the Whiting Manufacturing Company. Mr. Pate left the firm in 1875, when the present name was adopted. About this time the Company were burned out, and Mr. Draper soon purchased a shop on Broad Street, to which he made additions, and where the business was carried on up to the time of his death. In 1877 he bought the interest of Mr. Bailey, his remaining associate, and continued alone but under the same name as before. **DRAPER, PATE & BAILEY** had a remarkably successful career. In two years their business grew so rapidly that the number of workmen increased from twenty-five to a hundred and twenty-five. After assuming its conduct alone, Mr. Draper employed sixty-five hands in the making of plated charms and fire-gilt chains, and his annual payroll amounted to \$55,000.

Mr. Draper's death occurred in August, 1886, and on September 1 following the business was purchased by Miss Annie Meader, who had for a long period been the bookkeeper of the concern, and for several years had had charge of the buying and selling and the general oversight of its affairs. Miss Meader has recently removed the business to East Attleborough, but conducts it under the old name of **F. S. DRAPER & Co.** She has no partner, and is the only woman in town who attends personally to manufacturing. Another, **Mrs. E. I. Richards**, is represented in a firm, as has been stated, but in that case the affairs are conducted by the other partner, her son, Mr. E. Ira Richards.

The New York office of **F. S. DRAPER & Co.** is at 194 Broadway, and the specialty is German silver, fire-gilt, and nickel-plated charms, rolled plate

draws, etc. The present arrangement proves to be successful, a fact of interest to ladies who may be induced to order a frequent article. [This has ceased to exist.]

A. BUSHEE & CO. Albert A. Bushee and Thomas Bacon were the original partners of this firm, and they commenced operations January 18, 1848, in an old two-story house then standing to the west of the Stone Power Company's shop, occupying only the first floor. For a few years their name came mostly with finger-rings as a specialty, and their workmen averaged thirty efficient twenty-five. In the early part of 1849 the firm was changed by the entrance of Charles H. Bushee. Two years later, in the spring of 1851, they erected their large shop on County Street. This is a wooden structure, 100 feet by 35, and three stories high, with a wing in the rear. Of this building the firm themselves occupy the third floor. They have taken as another specialty called "The Original Separable Cuff and Collar Buttons," which are made in the best quality of fire gilt. In this they have been very successful for a number of years. At present their employees number about seventy-five, and their payroll some \$30,000 a year. Mr. Bacon withdrew from the firm on December 12, 1886, and no subsequent additions have been made. The Bushee business carries on the business, and the name has been unchanged from the beginning.

This firm has been especially enterprising and its trade a lucrative one. Mr. Albert Bushee has always attended to the entire portion of its out-of-town affairs, and has traveled extensively in its interests. Being a man of energy and the necessary "push," he at once established it upon a firm basis, and commencing as he did with only the characteristics and requirements essential in a perfect salesman, his efforts have been attended by most gratifying results, so that the name of A. BUSHEE & Co. has become very prominent. *The New York Times*, 4 W. 2d, Remedy, Rem. No. 21.

W. & S. BLACKINTON. This firm was formed in 1869, with W. S. and William Sumner Blackinton, father and son, as partners. During the twelve previous years the father had been doing something in the jewelry line, but it was not until the formation of this firm that he met with anything more than very ordinary success. After the organization they commenced making plated chains, and Mr. Blackinton introduced new lines of these goods, of his own origination. They attracted attention, became popular, and the ultimate success of the firm was assured. The rather small beginning was made at the north-east corner of Nassau Street. For a time subsequently a portion of Bushee's shop was occupied, when about eighty-five hands were employed, and then the present location in one of the Block Buildings was taken, and the usual complement of hands increased to a hundred and thirty. This complement has sometimes reached a hundred and sixty-five, when the business would represent an annual sum of several hundred thousand dollars. The payroll here is monthly, and reaches at present \$7,500.

In 1880 Louis A. Blackinton, another son, was admitted to partnership; but the name remained as before. This firm uses only solid rolled gold plate, and confines itself exclusively to chains. These are made after an almost innumerable number of patterns, and of every style, from the heaviest "cable chain," usable as a gentleman's watchguard, to the most delicate infants' neck chain, of a texture almost as fine as hair, are all well finished, and present a handsome appearance. Indeed an adept would be required to detect the difference between many of these and solid chains of the same patterns. Mr. Blackinton has insisted upon good workmanship, taking pride in the quality and durability of his manufactures, and their popularity has been well earned and well sustained. The firm is one of the largest in the east part of the town. The office in New York has always been at No. 11 Maiden Lane.¹

SADLER BROS. George W. Sadler first started in business at South Attleborough in 1863, in partnership with Daniel O. Stanley, as **SADLER & STANLEY**. Subsequently Mr. Stanley left the firm, and in 1869 the business, now that of **SADLER BROS.**, began. The name was assumed when in 1870 Albert D. Sadler joined his brother. He died in 1875, and from that time until 1884 the founder of the business conducted it alone. His death occurred during that year, and the business was then taken up by Charles E. and Herbert A. Sadler, who constitute the present firm. It has always been located in "the city," and since the commencement has manufactured all grades of brass and plated jewelry.

HORTON, ANGELL & Co. This widely known firm was organized in 1870, by Edwin J. Horton, Benjamin J. Angell, and Gideon M. Horton, who at once styled themselves by this name. They began in a small room in Bailey's shop, now Robinson's—hiring only a few hands. By 1873 their trade had so much increased that they were able to hire half a floor in their present shop, that of A. BUSHNETT & Co. The increase continued, and about 1876 an entire floor became necessary, and in January, 1881, another, so that now the firm occupies the whole of the second and third floors. Their average number of operatives ranges from one hundred to one hundred and fifty, quite a percentage of these being women, as is also the case with A. BUSHNETT & Co. Among their employees are many who have never worked in any other shop, and many who have continued with them for years. Their payroll is about \$1,000 per week, and they still maintain their old office in Room 24, No. 237 Broadway, New York.

Edwin J. Horton was lost in the collision between the Sound steamers *Naragansett* and *Stonington*, which occurred June 12, 1880. Though comparatively young both in years and in commercial affairs, he had lived long

¹ Mr. Blackinton, Sr., has died. The two brothers, W. S. and L. A. Blackinton, continue the business under the same name, and it may be said with the same reputation for quality.

enough to make many friends to the firm. He was the traveling member of the firm, and he bore it the very best with a flexible determination to make his business a success, and this was accomplished during his lifetime. Everett S. Horton, an older brother, from the place in the firm there made account. On October 14, 1886, E. J. Abell was thrown from his carriage near the Agricultural Hall, and died in a few hours from the effects of the injury sustained. Gideon M. Horton, the third and last of the founders of the firm, died December 10, 1886, in San Antonio, Texas. The experience through which this firm has passed is most singular and unprecedented. In less than twenty years from its formation the three original members had died, all of them suddenly, two of them violent deaths—but its copartnership affairs were so well arranged that no interruptions followed these accidents. The business went on smoothly, without a jar, though the vacant places were such both in the firm and in the community as cannot easily be filled.

The gradual and stealthy fading away of his partners, added to his own failing health, had doubtless turned Mr. Gideon Horton's attention to the future career of his firm to a far greater degree than ordinary circumstances would warrant in a man of his years. There were three young men in whom he felt peculiarly interested; two of them had been in the employ of the firm from ten to fourteen years, and the other for a somewhat shorter period, but all had proved themselves to possess worth and ability. A full understanding was had between Mr. Horton and his brother, the then only other partner previous to his leaving home shortly before his death, with regard to the probable future admittance of these young men to the firm. Partial arrangements having thus been made, it was comparatively easy to mature such others as were necessary, when the anticipated time arrived. Early in 1887 the present partnership was entered into, under the first and only name the firm has ever held. These partners are E. S. Horton, T. S. Carpenter, M. E. Rowe, and H. A. Clark.

The chief article of this firm's manufacture—known everywhere as its specialty—has been the "Original Separable Sleeve Button, Collar Button, and Stud." This is the best and most convenient button, it is said, that is made at the present time. It is easily adjusted, and from its real merits claims to be the best. These merits have been thoroughly tested, and though there have been many attempts to infringe upon and "improve" upon them, they still, it is stated, "bear the palm." Meanwhile every improvement that could be devised has been adopted to facilitate this manufacture, and many important articles of machinery have been made, and large sums of money expended for that purpose. These sleeve-buttons, etc., are made of rolled gold plate, stamped H. A. & Co., and are warranted by the firm to be "exactly as stated in each and every particular." Their durability may be shown by the statement that the office possesses some, which may be seen

there, which have been in constant use for eight years, and are still in good condition. Unlike many enterprises, the high standard set in the beginning has in this instance been strictly maintained during all the ensuing years. These goods are sent all over the world, and "the best," we are told, is the universal verdict pronounced. Besides this specialty a large line of initial sleeve and collar buttons, a new line of initial scarfpins, and in great quantities other patent buttons, besides ladies' sleeve-buttons and cuff-fasteners combined, are made by this firm. Its make includes probably over two thousand styles of collar-buttons, sleeve-buttons, studs, etc. These facts will give some idea of what is done in one of Attleborough's large jewelry establishments.

This firm was the first to adopt the custom of weekly payments to employees, a custom its members consider advantageous to both employers and employed, in an establishment where work is paid by "the hour" as well as by "the job." Here every Monday each employee is paid in full to the Saturday night previous, and from the first payday to the present time "the firm have never missed one." HORTON, ANGELL & Co. began with the motto of an "honest and straightforward manner of dealing," and though the founders have all passed away, the new members in retaining the old name propose to maintain the old principles and the same old good reputation.

YOUNG & BENNETT. The organization of the Company bearing this name took place in 1870, its members being Charles P. Young, Alonzo F. Bennett, and Edgar Sargar. In 1873 the latter retired. They located first on Washington Street, North Attleborough, and are now in Whiting's building. They make solid rolled gold plated chains and trimmings. They have adopted the weekly payday system. Their out-of-town office is in Chicago. [Now YOUNG & STERN.]

E. WHITNEY & Co. Edwin Whitney and William A. Read were the originators of this firm, and they commenced manufacturing in the old shop at the Falls with ten hands. At the present time, when business is good, they employ about forty. They occupy a floor in Daggett's building to which they removed in 1882. They began at first to make album and Bible clasps, later made a line of chains and novelties, and now make bar pins, brooches, earhoops and drops, bracelets, scarfpins, cuff-buttons, etc., in rolled plate. There have been no changes in the name or membership since the formation, and there is no office except the one at the factory. [No firm of this name in existence.]

STANLEY BROS. Stephen and Benjamin Stanley and E. C. Knapp associated themselves together May 1, 1871, under the above name. At the end of four years, in 1875, Mr. Knapp withdrew from the partnership, and since then the two brothers Stanley have conducted the business with no further change in the firm. They are in the same location they have always occupied

a partner, thus creating the present firm name. They took the second floor of the old Daggett jewelry shop, just south of the stone mill at the Falls. In March, 1875, J. L. Sweet, then of East Attleborough, entered the firm as an equal partner, but the name underwent no change, and in the following June the firm moved to Robinsville and established their manufactory on the first floor of the Freeman building. Since then several additions have been made to this building in order to keep pace with the rapid growth of the firm's business, and it now occupies "something over 10,000 square feet of floor."

The growth of this enterprise has been remarkable. Twelve years ago it was by comparison insignificant, requiring but eight or ten hands to produce the goods made: to-day it is a large industry in itself, furnishing employment to over two hundred people, and distributing among them for a month's wages from \$8,000 to \$9,000. This firm confines itself entirely to the manufacture of rolled gold plated chains in great variety, and only of the very best quality. The figures given show something of the proportions the production has assumed. The New York office is in the new Knapp Building, 41 and 43 Maiden Lane, and the firm is "represented" in a number of foreign cities: namely, Rio Janeiro, Buenos Ayres, Montevideo, Berlin, Barcelona, and Sydney, New South Wales. There have been no changes since the organization, either by death or withdrawal.

The course of this firm has been a brilliant one, and its sudden though permanent success almost unprecedented. This good fortune has been largely due to the fact that it at once established a reliable character for itself as a manufacturing house that invariably produced goods which prove what they purport to be, and that its members were possessed of the needed sagacity, foresight, and energy. R. F. SIMMONS & Co. probably have in their employ more people than any other firm in town.¹

BLISS BROTHERS & EVERETT. This partnership continued for about fourteen years. In 1873 Charles E. and Everett B. Bliss and R. L. F. Everett organized a firm under this name. They first located in the Steam Power Company's building, but moved from there February 1, 1876, to their present location in the Robinson Building No. 2. They have an office in Room 18, No. 176 Broadway, New York, and Mr. Everett has attended to the interests of the business there. They commenced with the manufacture of ladies' sets, but as fashions have changed they have gradually changed their style of work, and at present are making gentlemen's and ladies' charms, bar and cuff pins, collar-buttons, and a variety of other articles of ornamented jewelry. From the commencement they have used a good quality of

¹ During 1892-93 they erected a large factory at Blackintonville, between the Bragay River and the Attleborough Branch Railroad, east of the crossing. The building, including the offices, is 250 feet long, about 36 feet wide, and three stories high. The owners occupy the second floor, and Bliss Brothers and C. A. Wetherell & Co. the third floor.

solid plate and have always maintained the good reputation they are so good for them. Their output from fifty to fifty hands, which proves them to have been successful. The original firm has recently been dissolved by the withdrawal of Mr. Everett, but the business will be continued by the other two members under the name of Bliss Brothers.

WATSON, NEWELL & CO. November 1, 1871, Charles J. Cobb, Samuel Gould, Clarence L. Watson, and Fred. A. Newell formed a partnership under the style of Cobb, Gould & Co. Mr. Cobb left the firm February 20, 1880, and Mr. Gould on January 10, 1880, when the name became, after the two remaining partners, WATSON & NEWELL. January 1, 1881, Joseph F. Bates entered the firm, which then assumed Co. to its name. The number of hands at the beginning was twelve, and there are now a hundred, the average number for some years. The weekly payroll is \$1,000. Solid, rolled plate jewelry is the manufacture of this firm and at present a specialty is made of sleeve and collar buttons. This has in former years been varied by the making of several styles of pins, such as lace, cuff, and shawl pins. The location has always been on Union Street and there is no out-of-town office. There is a substantial as well as an enterprising firm, as its well-stocked premises, after an existence of less than fifteen years among the largest and most prominent of the East Attleborough companies, amply testifies.

R. E. MACDONALD conducted business for himself January 1, 1874, in the Steam Power Company's building. He began to manufacture chain swivels, and soon built up quite a large and lucrative business. Mr. Macdonald moved in January, 1881, to his present location, the ground floor of Bates' new building on Union Street. At that time he made a change in his style of manufacture, and took up the making of fine plated chains, subsequently adding specialties in charms, brooches, pins, etc. He generally employs from fifteen to twenty workmen, and his monthly payroll ranges from \$600 to \$1,000. He has never had a partner, and his success is due to his own efforts. I. W. Lucas has charge of the sales for this manufactory.

JOSEPH A. DOYLE took his present location on the "Turner road" He commenced in 1875. His manufacturing business was small, and he was a Japan enameiler, etc. His present working force is about ten hands, with a payroll of \$250 per month. [Mr. Doyle has left town, and his business has passed to another person.]

JOHN T. RICHARDS began business in May, 1876, alone. In 1880 W. A. and O. C. Miller became associated with him, but they remained his partners for only three years, as in February, 1883, he bought them out, and since that time has been again alone. He carries on his business in the E. I. Richards

For a full description of the history of this firm, see the "History of the City of Attleborough," published by the Attleborough Historical Society, 1881. The firm was organized in 1875, and since that time has been a success. It is now one of the largest and most successful firms in the city.

factory, and employs from twenty to forty hands in the making of rolled gold plated chains and chain bracelets.

NERSEY & LINCOLN. In 1876 William Nersey and Fred. W. Lincoln purchased the electro-plating business which had for some years previous been carried on by SHORR & NERSEY, and established this firm. To the business of electro-plating they add that of coloring jewelry, but are not manufacturers. They are located in Bates' Building No. 1. Their employees are boys, and at present the number is not large.¹

W. T. CHAFEE, formerly of the firm of CHAFEE & BALLOU, General Engravers, continues that occupation at Anawan Block, North Attleborough, in connection with a repairing business. He employs two or three hands.

S. E. FISHER & Co., with S. E. and W. W. Fisher and E. D. Sturtevant as partners, succeeded to the firm of DEMAREST, FISHER & Co. on July 1, 1887, and this partnership has continued till now unchanged. The basement of Stephen Richardson's factory was their first place of business, and on January 1, 1881, they moved to the place they now occupy in the new Union Power Company's building. They started with twenty-five hands, have sometimes employed a hundred, and now have about sixty. Their monthly payments for labor have been as much as \$6,000, and now average about \$3,000. These figures place them among the large firms of their vicinity. They make rolled plated goods of the finest grades, and specialties of ladies' lace pins, drops, sets, bangles, bracelets, lockets, etc. They have an office at 41 Maiden Lane, New York.

G. K. WEBSTER is located in Whiting's shop. The first firm name was **G. K. WEBSTER & Co.**; but in 1883 the "Co." was dropped. The first location was in the Company's shop, where from ten to fifteen hands were employed; at the present time from forty to fifty are employed, a satisfactory increase for four or five years. This is a manufactory of solid rolled plate goods, — collar and sleeve buttons, — and they are sold through the New York office at 176 Broadway.

CODDING BROTHERS. January 1, 1878, the three brothers — Arthur E., James A., and Edwin A. Coddling — formed a partnership under the above name. Their business is conducted at North Attleborough, and their New York office is at 194 Broadway. They employ about twenty hands in the manufacture of rolled plate bracelets. There have been no changes in this firm since its organization.²

MARSH & BIGNEY. This firm started under its present name and with its present members, Charles A. Marsh and Sidney O. Bigney, at North Attle-

¹ Messrs. Nersey and Lincoln had sold their firm to Nersey on 1, 1888, and for the same year entered the firm of C. A. WETHERELL & Co. which had been formed previously. The specifications of changes in their

² The present name of this firm is CODDING BROTHERS & HILLBORN and their location is Coddling Brothers' building on Jay Street near Elm Street, North Attleborough.

through on December 10, 1873. They began operations in the Robinson factory with about ten workmen. In April, 1882, they were completely burned out, but first they removed to East Attleborough and located in one of L. A. Robinson's buildings there, where they still remain. They acquired now another factory, and their payroll amounts to about \$1,000 a month. They are manufacturers of rolled plate jewelry, and their specialties are the "M. & B. Patent Neck Chain," vest chains for gentlemen, and ladies' chains. They have no out-of-town office, but Mr. Marsh attends to the sales which are concentrated largely in New York and Chicago. The firm has had a very satisfactory career, and with the exception of its misfortune from fire has been steadily prosperous. [Dissolved partnership in July, 1884.]

S. W. GOULD & Co. This firm has been in existence since January, 1880, when Messrs. Samuel W. and William H. Gould, brothers, associated themselves together as a manufacturing firm under this style, beginning in one of Robinson's buildings. They subsequently moved to Bates' building on Union Street, where they now are. Their specialties are ladies' bar pins, buttons, brooches, etc., of rolled plate and what is called gold front manufacture. Since the first the firm has averaged a working force of fifty hands, which shows that the business is a steady and successful one. There is an office at 10 Maiden Lane, New York. Mr. George L. Sweet, of the firm of HAYWARD & SWEET, formerly acted as salesman for this firm. The present salesman is William W. Middlebrook, formerly employed in that capacity for C. E. Hayward & Co.¹

J. M. FISHER & Co. The original firm, formed January 1, 1880, was HARRIS & FISHER, J. M. Fisher and C. R. Harris being its members. They occupied quarters in Robinson's small brick building and now occupy the upper floor of his new building. In February, 1885, Mr. Harris left the firm and S. A. Briggs entered it, and the present name was adopted. It had a very small beginning, with only five hands; now it employs from forty to fifty. It has adopted the system of weekly payments. The manufacture is chiefly charms and lockets in solid rolled plate. The only office is at the factory in town.

JOHN P. BONNETT started in business with George W. Cheever, as CHEEVER & BONNETT, in the rear factory of the Company's buildings in North Attleborough. In December, 1880, this firm dissolved partnership, and Mr. Bonnett then commenced on his own account in a very small shop on Elm Street, near "Foster's bridge." In 1885 he moved into his present quarters, a shop seventy feet long by twenty-five wide, just beside the old one. His business is that of electro-plating, electrotyping, and coloring of jewelry,

¹ The original firm of C. E. Hayward & Co. was formed in 1875, and was composed of C. E. Hayward, George L. Sweet, W. H. Gould and Samuel W. and William H. Fisher. Their business consisted

and he also works on silverware. He employs from ten to twelve hands, and his monthly payments to the same range from \$600 to \$700. Mr. Bonnett does quite a large business and, considering the amount of capital invested, a very profitable one. [Now in Richards building.]

L. E. SADLER began in 1880 in Robinson's building to manufacture a "specialty" in rolled plate goods. This embraces lace and scarf pins, brooches, bracelets, studs, and collar-buttons. He keeps from ten to twenty-five hands employed, according to the conditions of business. [Now foreman for F. H. Sadler & Co.]

W. G. CLARK & Co. March 1, 1881, Walter G. Clark and John F. Mackinson started this firm, locating in F. S. Draper's building at North Attleborough. There has been no change excepting that of removing the business to B. S. Freeman's building at the Falls. The specialty of this firm is sleeve-buttons for both ladies and gentlemen, of rolled gold plate. It has an office at 196 Broadway, New York.

D. F. BRIGGS began on July 23, 1882, at the Falls, where he still continues to manufacture solid gold, silver, and rolled plate swivels; also, spring rings, bars, and chain trimmings, and vest and eyeglass chains, with findings and watch materials. His specialty is gold, silver, plate, and jet eyeglass chains. Mr. Briggs commenced with one employee and has now twenty-eight, his monthly payroll averaging about \$700, an encouraging increase for five years. He has no out-of-town office. [Later Mr. Briggs associated with himself two partners, as the D. F. Briggs Company; still later he sold out and is now connected with W. F. Briggs & Co., Attleborough Falls.]

DAGGETT & CLAP. In August, 1882, Harvey Clap and H. M. Daggett, Jr., commenced manufacturing at Mansfield in the Kingman & Hodges shop. At the end of three days a failure of water-power occurred there. They immediately hired shop room of H. N. Daggett in the original old cotton mill at the Falls, moved their machinery and tools in the night, and were ready to go to work in the morning. In September, 1886, they made another move, to the third floor of Bates' new building in East Attleborough. The firm have already met with a gratifying measure of success, as they employ about sixty hands, to whom they pay weekly over \$500. During 1886 they melted nearly \$10,000 worth of gold in the making of heavy plate for the manufacture of a variety of ladies' goods, such as buttons, bracelets, initial goods, novelties, etc. There is an office belonging to this firm at 41 and 43 Maiden Lane, New York, and another at 82 Madison Street, Chicago.

H. H. CURTIS & Co. Henry H. Curtis and George H. Coggsill are the partners in this firm, and they organized in May, 1883, and located where they now are, in the Company's building at North Attleborough. They began with twenty hands, have now about thirty-five, and when business is

first, then silver require about six-to-five. They have a specialty of sleeve-button for ladies and gentlemen, in rolled plate. There have been no changes in this firm and it has no out-of-town office. [Now at E. I. Richards building.]

HEIN & FRENCH. The organization of this firm dates from June 1, 1880. There have been no changes in the firm and but one in location. First occupied a portion of the Denon's Everett factory on East Street in the beginning and is now in that of the Foster Brothers. The increase in skilled here is from fifteen to seventy-five employees in four years. The present weekly payroll is \$600 to \$700. This firm makes both solid gold and rolled-plate jewelry and a special ladies' sleeve-button with pin and chain attachment, of which manufacture it is the patentee. The members of this enterprising company are G. Herbert French and William H. Riber, Jr. They maintain an office at 178 Broadway, New York. [Present name Riber, Higgins & French.]

F. S. GILBERT. In October, 1884, the firm of F. G. Farn & Co. sold out their tools, fixtures, etc., and these were purchased by Mr. Gilbert. He at once started work in the Union Power Company building with four hands and at present, when "running full time," employs thirty. His manufacture consists of both gold and gold-plated goods in articles for both ladies and gentlemen and in assorted lines. Mr. Gilbert has an office at 202 Broadway, New York, and his business is gaining steadily in size and extent.

C. R. HARRIS has retired from the firm of HARRIS & FISHER in February, 1886, at once opened for himself in a new line of business. He began with charms, locket, and emblems, and to these soon added a full line of chains, all being made of fine rolled plate. His manufactory and office are both on Union Street, East Attleborough. [Mr. Harris has left town.]

J. N. HUGO & CO. The firm of KNIGHT & BERRY was organized June 1, 1885, and it began to carry on business in the wooden building in the rear of Whiting's stone factory, where the present firm is still located. September 1, 1885, George Brownieker entered the firm and Co. was added to its name. November 1 of the same year Mr. Knight withdrew, but the name remained unchanged. December 1, 1886, John N. Hugo became a partner, and the name was then changed to Hugo & Berry. October 25, 1886, Mr. Brownieker withdrew, and January 1, 1887, Mr. Berry also. At this time the name underwent another change, becoming as above, with John N. Hugo and John P. O'Connor as partners. The number of operatives varies from ten to thirty in different months. Lace, scarf, and shawl pins, brooches, buttons, and trinkets are made, with a specialty of sleeve-buttons, of rolled gold plate and solid gold front work. The only office is at the factory on the west end of the building before mentioned. [This firm is not in existence.]

F. J. HALLIDAY & CO. A firm under the style of BENNETT & HALLIDAY

organized February 1, 1885, and began work in Guild's Block, North Attleborough, subsequently removing to the quarters occupied by the present firm in Robinson's building, East Attleborough. January 1, 1886, Mr. Halliday bought Mr. Bennett's interest and continues under the above name. As yet the number of hands has never exceeded twelve. The special manufacture is lace and scarf pins and eardrops in solid rolled plate, and there is no out-of-town office. [Mr. Halliday has left town.]

C. A. SHEPARDSON began about two years ago at room 7, Crandall's Block, an engraving and chasing business, and he is also a jewelry design maker. He usually employs about five men, and pays them an average of \$2.50 per day each, or \$75 a month. He is still located in the same place. [Not in the business.]

WHEATON & RICHARDS. This is one of the most recently organized firms in town. Mark O. Wheaton and J. Shepard Richards formed a copartnership on November 15, 1886. They are located in Robinson building number 1, and their specialty is lever collar and sleeve buttons made of fine rolled gold plate. Beyond this little can as yet be said of this firm, as when our information was received there had only been sufficient time after the organization to get samples into the market. [Present name WHEATON, RICHARDS & Co.]

Oscar M. Draper started in business in 1862, under the name of O. M. DRAPER & Co., E. I. Richards being associated with him. In 1868 the name became O. M. DRAPER alone. In 1876 he took and has since occupied an entire floor in the new Richards factory. He began and has continued with a specialty of patent fire-gilt and nickel chains, and he also makes charms and swivels. He was the first in town to manufacture what are known as "swedged goods," and his machinery is the most complete and ingenious used in the production of this line of goods. His business is a large and profitable one, and he gives employment to about eighty hands.

R. BLACKINTON & Co. dates back to 1863, when the firm was organized with R. Blackinton, T. S. Mann, and Walter Ballou as members. They began at the Falls, where, in 1867, Mr. Mann withdrew. In 1873 Messrs. Blackinton & Ballou, then and still the only members of the firm, moved to the Richards building, and subsequently to F. G. Whitney's factory, where they now are. This has been an especially successful firm, it having at times employed as many as a hundred and forty hands. Solid gold and all kinds of plated jewelry are manufactured in this establishment, and at present there is a specialty of bracelets.

E. I. FRANKLIN & Co. is among the large firms. It began in 1874 with Elton I. Franklin, Hiram S. Somes, and Clarence W. Fisher as its partners. Messrs. Franklin & Fisher purchased the interest of the third partner, and continue in the business together under the original name. They have been in both the Richardson and Draper shops, and are now in Whiting's. They

large given employment to twenty hands in the making of gold front and jointed pocket and various kinds of ladies' wear. [Now at Whitney's building.]

SARADAY, CHASE & CO. started in the Richards "back factory" in 1816, and removed in 1851 to the Union Patent Company building. They make a general line of jointed goods for both ladies and gentlemen and have been employed to about seventy-five workmen.

C. F. SARRIS & CO. began a single business in solid jewelry, and they now make both rolled and roll-plated jewelry. [The name of this firm is now BROWN & SARRIS.]

DEMARREST & FISHER. The present firm dates from 1871. Five years previous Mr. Demarest organized a strong company having nine associates, placed their office in Wallcut's "house" at Phoenix. In 1874 he withdrew and organized a jointed stock company of his associates, under the style of DEMARREST & FISHER, which had its manufactory in the Richards building, North Attleborough. In 1877 Mr. Demarest sold out and joined a partnership with Mr. Leach. George Demarest and H. E. Beatty are the only members of the firm, which is located in the Whiting Manufacturing Company building. It has a special make of sets, drops, studs, and scarfpins. Mr. Demarest originated the stock plan which has been followed by others with success.

MASON, DRAPER & CO. is another large firm and is located in the Freeman shop at the Falls. It commenced manufacturing in 1870. It has in its employ about seventy-five men, and has a line of specialties in rolled stock plate, such as patent bracelets, ladies' sets, bar pins, etc., and has an office in New York at 176 Broadway. The members are M. H. and S. D. Mason and C. F. Draper. [This firm dissolved partnership and two firms subsequently formed are an outgrowth of it, namely, Mason & Brewster and the MASON JEWELRY CO., both at Attleborough Falls.]

SMITH & FRANK are also among the larger companies in the east part of the town. The firm was established in 1877 with three partners, W. H. Smith, A. R. Crosby, and C. E. Smith. The latter has since withdrawn, and the two former are the only partners. The firm makes a specialty of solid gold front goods, of which it produces a great variety, employing when business is good fifty hands and fifteen engravers.

W. H. WILMARTH & CO. is still another large firm in East Attleborough, and began its existence in 1872, with W. H. and J. C. Wilmarth, forming the then firm of WILMARTH BROTHERS, which began business in Robinson's old shop. In 1873 J. W. Luther was admitted to the firm, which was then styled LUTHER & WILMARTH BROTHERS. Shortly after Willard Wheeler became a partner, and the name LUTHER, WILMARTH BROTHERS & WHEELER. Messrs. J. C. Wilmarth, Luther, and Wheeler retired in succession, and in 1876 the entire business became vested in W. H. Wilmarth. The original manufacture was rolled plated chain; this was changed to brass and fire-

gilt chain; then buttons were taken up; and then again chain in electro-plate and also sleeve-buttons, with perhaps other varieties. This firm has at times given employment to a hundred and thirty-six hands.

In May, 1890, Edwin B. Bullock bought this business, which he has continued under the same name, and for some years in the same building—Robinson's—where he occupied three floors, 45 by 80 feet in size, and employed from 100 to 175 operatives. The machinery in this establishment is very complete in all departments, "including steam power, rolling mills, presses, etc., a noticeable feature being the electro-plating apparatus, which is of the latest and most approved style." Mr. Bullock is the possessor of the curious chain-making machines formerly owned by F. G. Whitney & Co. A large variety of rolled gold jewelry "of all kinds and in all grades" is made here, but the principal specialties are "lever and separable sleeve and collar buttons, curb, rope, Geneva and fancy link ladies' and gents' chains, etc., in the best quality electro rolled plate." It is said "fifteen hundred styles of buttons are made here constantly, three hundred old being discarded and three hundred new and popular styles substituted each year—that is, about one fresh novelty for each working day." Among the most popular collar-buttons may be named the "Dandy," the "Daisy" and the "Crescent," and at times one hundred gross of each of these has been manufactured daily. Mr. Bullock uses many brilliants in his manufactures, and by a peculiar process of his own these are "made from glass canes," and a very large proportion of them are set by skilled lapidaries in his employ, thus materially reducing both cost and price of the goods and benefiting both producer and consumer. The trade of this firm extends to Europe, Australia, and Central and South America, and many of the manufactures are for foreign trade specially, never being exhibited in this country. The sales for the year 1890 or 1891 amounted to some \$260,000. The New York office is at 176 Broadway, Room 11. In 1893 Mr. Bullock built a large shop on the corner of Hazel and School streets in the east part of the village, commencing operations there the first of September. It is three stories high, the main building 200 by 40 feet, the L 50 by 25 feet, and the office front 52 by 20 feet. The firm uses two floors, the upper being unoccupied. In January, 1894, a stock company was formed under the name of "The W. H. Wilmarth & Co. Corporation."

STREETER BROTHERS made their first venture in the autumn of 1867 in the Steam Power Company factory, and later moved to the factory of W. D. Wilmarth on County Street, where they still are. They manufacture gilt jewelry with a specialty of chains, and employ some twenty-five or thirty hands. The members of the firm are Henry A. and John F. Streeter.

DANIEL H. SMITH was in the jewelry business for about twenty years,—beginning not far from 1866,—some of the time in connection with others, but for a number of years by himself. He was for some time located in Hayward's building making plated goods of several kinds, gentlemen's lockets being a specialty. He has recently made an entire change in his occupation and become an undertaker. He has rooms in Watson's Block, which are supplied with everything necessary for the proper conduct of that business. Mr. Smith is well fitted for this occupation and will fill a long-felt want.

NELSON CARPENTER, since his withdrawal from the firm of HAYWARD & CARPENTER, has conducted business for himself. He was at first in D. H. Smith's shop, and removed from that to his present location in the Bates building, 13 Mill Street. His employees number over thirty, and he makes chiefly pins, earrings, and scarfpins.

A. E. DIAS began as a chaser about twenty years ago, and has always been

in the same location, at 270 Washington Street, North Attleborough. He has at times employed more or less men in this line of work, but at present, owing to the depression of business, is alone.

F. A. JESSEY, successor to the firm of C. W. CHASE & CO., has been located in the Richards building since February 1, 1882. He makes a specialty of electroplate and jewelry cases. Just at present, business not being brisk, he is engaged in finishing work. [He has since left town.]

DAVID CROFT is also located in the Richards factory, where he employs about ten hands in the making of electroplate silver buttons. [He has given out of this business.]

J. N. THOMPSON & CO. are in the same factory—manufacturers of fine gold plate jewelry. This business has been recently established. [One or two changes were made in this business, but it had only a short existence.]

THOMAS TOTTEN & CO. have now a factory of their own near the depot in North Attleborough. They were among the firms forced out in 1882 in the Richardson factory. Their goods are rolled-gold plated chains, chain trimmings, and chain bracelets. They have also been very successful in the making of flat plated chains. They furnish work for about sixty employees.

Many other companies have been organized during the hundred years since this industry began its existence here that are no longer in any way represented. Some have been merged into others, and some have ceased to exist by being absorbed—such for instance as THE UNION JEWELRY CO., formed in 1855 or 1856, changed later to THOMPSON, RICHARDSON & CO., and finally in 1861 terminated by dissolution. There are also many others at present in existence of which no special mention is here made. It should be said that recent facts have been furnished in a rather dull time, and the figures in many instances, therefore, are to be taken as something of a historical mean for the average.

For many years the trade has furnished employment for women as well as men. They were first employed in the offices in putting the goods on to cards and packing them in boxes, and for quite a long period occupation was given to various kinds in the making of chains. Both these are pleasant and moderately lucrative occupations. At the present time women are employed by some firms quite largely in other departments. It is said they are quicker in some kinds of work than men, and they do not command as high wages, which is of course an advantage to the employer. Several firms now employ women as bookkeepers.

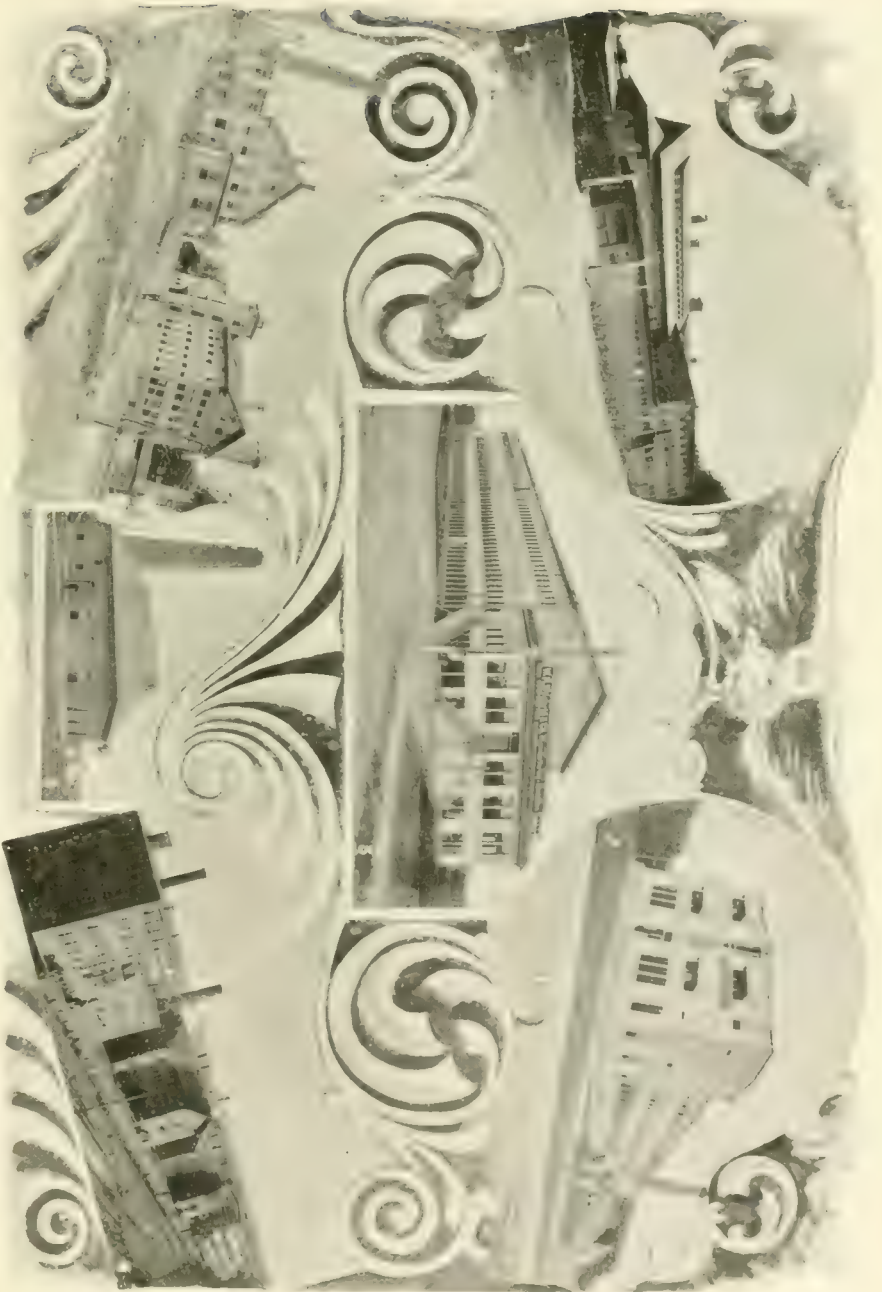
Some years ago the *Observer* published some statistics relating to the condition of the jewelry business at that time. These were published in its issue of November 14, 1879. The statements concerning fifty-five firms are as

These figures were given in the *Observer* of November 14, 1879, and are given here as they appear in the original.

said to include the larger portion of the manufactories then in town, with the exception of those in South and West Attleborough, which would give an increase of only four or five. The figures given were for the month of September, 1879. The fifty-three firms were employing 2,081 hands with an aggregate payroll of \$101,461. The goods shipped during that month were worth the large sum of \$398,210. Several firms declined to give statistics, and the *Chronicle* made an estimate of these as employing 372 hands with a payroll of \$19,750 and a shipment of \$83,000, which makes a large addition to the above given figures. The average rate of wages was "just about" \$2 per day. The largest number of hands employed in any one shop was 125. There were five firms that together employed 525. The largest payroll was \$6,100, and the five largest aggregated \$24,900. The largest shipment by any one firm amounted to \$32,500, and five firms shipped in the month to the amount of \$123,314. To-day there are one hundred manufacturing establishments in town, and to carry out some of the above figures there should be now about 3,000 employees, and, the proportions being the same for a given month, a payroll of \$191,435 and a shipment amounting to the sum of \$751,339. Large as these figures appear, they are probably less than the true aggregate. To the hundred manufactories mentioned above must be added twenty establishments now in existence, engaged in other branches of the trade — enamellers, engravers, chasers, refiners, makers of jewelers' findings, etc., but all directly connected with and a part of it. There is no other *town* in the country where so large a business of this nature is done. Providence, R. I., and Newark, N. J., are largely interested in the manufacture of jewelry, but no comparison with them can be made, as they are both large cities.

In what has been said of this great enterprise no attempt has been made to trace its growth in any one portion of the town as compared with another. At the present writing no division has been effected; we are still *the town* of Attleborough. To the outside world certainly the credit due any part is due the whole. Whatever the near or the far future may have in store, the first century of our chronicles of jewelry belongs to the good old single town of Attleborough; therefore in the preceding sketch no sectional lines have been drawn, but from the material at hand the facts have been arranged chiefly by date — though with some irregularities — and without much regard to locality. Only a mere sketch of this business has been attempted, not a history — that complete would of itself fill the pages of a very large volume. But if some little idea of its rise and progress has been given, and any at all adequate conception of its magnitude can be formed by people whose personal knowledge of it may be limited, the desired purpose will have been fully accomplished.

¹During the years since the above chapter was written many changes have taken place in firms and their locations, and such of them as have been ascertained have been mentioned with



1. Cooke's Tannery. 2. R. P. Simmons & Co. Shop. 3. W. H. Winarth & Co. Shop. 4. W. J. Winarth and A. Bushor
 & Co. Shops. 5. Atholbranch Pumping Station and Well. 6. Jewely Shops Robinson, Hayward, and Bates Buildings.

CHAPTER XIV.

SOCIETIES, ORGANIZATIONS, ETC.

IN the early part of this century two social societies were formed in town, which flourished for a number of years. One of these was called "The Attleboro' Society for the Encouragement of Agriculture, Arts, and Social Intercourse." The constitution of this society was ratified February 22, 1801, with forty-nine members, many of them men whose names were familiar to the town records, as they were prominently engaged in the public affairs of their day, and like names are familiar to the ears of the present generation, — as Elisha May, Joel Ellis, Joseph Tiffany, Carlos Barrows, Joel Read, Noah Chaffin, etc. The constitution contained eight articles, and in all some forty-five sections. Its provisions were certainly ample and "covered the entire ground." It seems to have been constructed somewhat upon the plan of the sermons of its date, especially in the number of "heads" it comprised. The requirements of membership were as follows: "The qualifications necessary in order to be admitted a member of this society are, adult age, a good moral character, a satisfactory knowledge of this Constitution, and mental endowments competent to understand and promote the designs of this institution." Honorary members were also elected.

The society's annual meetings were held on February 22, as an expression of veneration to Washington, "the patron of order, and the friend of man." On this date in 1805 an address, a copy of which has been presented¹ to the library in East Attleborough, was delivered before the society by the Rev. John Wilder, A.M., his subject being "Man and his Intellect," etc., ending with a fine peroration upon Washington. The other regular meetings were held "on the Monday next preceding the full moon in the months of October, November, December, January, March and April," and sometimes a meeting was held in July, should the society so appoint. This society was incorporated in 1816. Its library contained about three hundred volumes. The books were of a very substantial character, such as Burke's Works, in four volumes, Adams' Defence of the Constitution, Belknap's History of New Hampshire, Robertson's History of Charles the Fifth, etc. Our grandfathers knew little of novels and romances, and fortunately they were fewer then than now. This society had a hall in connection with the schoolhouse in West Attleborough where its meetings were held. Before 1800 Moses Read gave a lot of four acres for a training field and later this building was erected on the lot, the same on which the "Old Powder House" now stands. The building was the district schoolhouse and the cost of its erection was shared by the association, which occupied the upper floor for its books and meetings. At these debating gatherings the order, it is said, was to have addresses of an hour's length, followed by the social part of the evening — the tapping of the liquor kegs and the discussions on politics, etc.

The other society was called "The Social Library and Farmers' Historical and Geographical Society." This was established in 1805, founded, it is said, by Dr. Capron. The library contained about two hundred volumes, and in it might be found such books as Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, Watts' Hymns, Baxter's Saints' Rest, and others of a similar nature, with doubtless geographical, historical, and agricultural works. At the annual meetings addresses were delivered by such eminent men as Tristram Burgess. Somewhere about 1835 these libraries were divided among the members by auction and the societies were dissolved.

A Lyceum was established in 1830. Nothing beyond this fact is known of that organization.

An agricultural library was formed in East Attleborough many years ago, which contained some useful works on farming. It was started by a Boston man, who sold the shares at five dollars apiece. In the course of a few years this was united with a more miscellaneous library, having about one hundred and forty volumes.

¹ By Mr. Joseph W. Capron.

APPROXIMATE LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP.

On the morning of the Mrs. George N. Duggan's funeral (Nov. 2, 1890, New York) in the morning service, "Mrs. Sewall." The funeral service of the first lady took place in November of that year in the vestibule of First Church, New York, by Rev. Samuel Jones, D.D., and was given during the day. On a contributing of money, and the amount was \$100. The first lady had the service of the first lady. The service was given by the Rev. Samuel Jones, D.D., and the amount was \$100. The service was given by the Rev. Samuel Jones, D.D., and the amount was \$100. The service was given by the Rev. Samuel Jones, D.D., and the amount was \$100.

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Library." By-laws were adopted at that time and the committee recommended that eighteen directors should be chosen. The following officers were elected: President, E. S. Horton; Vice-President, Miss Mary J. Capron; Secretary and Treasurer, Dr. C. S. Holden, all of whom still hold these offices. Subscriptions were at once solicited and also gifts of books and other things and in every way the responses were generous. The largest single gift in money was \$100 and the smallest gift 50 cents. At the time of the opening of the library there were one hundred and seven persons who had paid the necessary two-dollar membership tax. Over \$1,600 had been expended and near \$400 more pledged.

In 1878 the old library catalogued 708 volumes, which number had so increased that the new association received from it 825 volumes. Some of these were, however, worthless and many had to be rebound. At the opening the present library had 1,700 volumes, and at present there are 3,025. It has two rooms in Horton's block which are open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from two till nine o'clock p.m., under the charge of the librarian, Mrs. M. A. Mowton. (1887.)

The association is at present entirely dependent upon voluntary subscriptions, with the exception of the trifling sum obtained from fines; but an attempt has recently been made to obtain the income of the Richardson School Fund for its benefit. This fund, as has been seen, was limited to the use of a few districts, and as these are now abolished and the town is abundantly able to provide for all the needs of the public schools, it has been deemed advisable, as it certainly is desirable, to expend this income in such a manner as to do the most good possible and to the largest number. The consent of the majority of the heirs of the Richardson estate to the carrying out of the suggested plan has been obtained and the following report presented to the Supreme Court of the State for legal adjustment:—

"The first board of Trustees of the Richardson School Fund were elected by the second Parish or Precinct of Attleboro at a parish meeting held March 28th 1846.—

"At a parish meeting held March 25, 1848, 'The Trustees of the Richardson School Fund reported that they had received of John Daggett, Esq. executor of the estate of Abiathar A. Richardson \$11,000, on the 22d. day of Feb. A.D. 1847 and had loaned the same on real estate securities, and on the 22d of Feb. A.D. 1848 had divided among the school districts in said parish nine and one half months interest, viz: \$529.90 agreeable to said will of Abiathar A. Richardson, which report was accepted.'

"The first apportionment of the income of fund to the school districts as appears from the records was made Feb. 22, 1848 amt \$539.00.

"The last apportionment was made Feb. 22, 1882, amt \$710.04"

The decision of the court being favorable, the library will be placed upon a thoroughly substantial footing, and no longer subjected to the vacillations of general charity. The greatest remaining need of the association will then be a suitable building of its own. It is to be hoped that before very long as beautiful a Memorial Hall will be built in this part of the Rehoboth North Purchase as has recently been erected in Rehoboth old town.¹

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Some fifteen years prior to the formation of the last-mentioned association a similar one was formed in North Attleborough. A meeting of the citizens of that village was held October 24, 1850, in the vestry of the old Universalist church "to consider the feasibility of establishing a Public Library." A committee was at that time chosen to mature a proper plan, but no record of its members' names appears to have been made. There were present at this meeting Rev. J. D. Pierce, Simeon Bowen, Esq., B. Porter, Jr., John Thompson, Henry Rice, John

¹The matter of the requested disposition of the "School Fund" has not yet been decided by the court, but at the annual spring meeting in 1888 the town voted to assume the support of the library, and therefore without the income of this fund the financial status for the future is assured. The affairs of the library are in the hands of nine trustees appointed by the town, three being appointed each year for a term of three years. The board is composed of both lay and clerical members. The present quarters of the library—the two new rooms on the first floor of Stock's Block—are more convenient and commodious than those in Horton's Block. The librarian is Mrs. Nettie A. Breen, Intn. 1894.

Henry M. Masson, E. I. Franklin, and C. C. Peck, the first named being superintendent and having charge of the purchases of books, etc. 'At its annual meeting in the spring of 1889 the town of North Attleborough voted to assume all the duties and responsibilities of the Improvement District, the management and support of the library among them, and about this time the removal to the present rooms in Boyle Block occurred. Miss Irene W. Day was made librarian, and still continues in the position. The affairs of the library are placed in the hands of a board of six trustees. These are chosen by the town, "two each year for a term of three years." The annual appropriation has for a number of years been \$1,500. The library now contains about 3,500 books, and from 300 to 350 volumes are added yearly. In 1893 Mrs. John Tweedy, Miss Harriet T. and Mr. E. Ira Richards "announced their purpose to build for the town a library building, to be called the Richards Memorial Library," in memory of their father and mother, Edmund Ira and Lucy Morse Richards. They have already purchased a suitable lot on the corner of Washington and Grove streets, for about \$6,000, and building operations have commenced. It has been estimated that the entire cost of the memorial will be not far from \$25,000. The board of Trustees at the time this offer was made consisted of the following named persons; Chairman, Edward R. Price; Secretary, Rev. George E. Osgood; Miss Leda J. Thompson, Joseph B. Gerould, M.D., and John P. Bonnett. There was one vacancy "through failure to qualify." North Attleborough is most fortunate in being the recipient of so noble a gift — one bestowed with a large generosity and in unrestricted entirety. In no other way probably could a gift be made whose good results would be so widespread — diffusing themselves abroad in a never-ending and ever-increasing ratio — for every present and future inhabitant of the town, whether high or low, rich or poor, may avail himself or herself of the advantages accruing from it, at will. The memorial is a proof not only of the liberality, but of the true loyalty of the members of this family to the town of their birth. For this indeed they are specially worthy of praise, because the trait is rather rare, and in every way they are deserving of the sincere and continued gratitude of the whole town for thus bestowing upon it a perpetual, practical benefit.

The building is Renaissance in style and to be built of "brick and terra-cotta resting on a foundation of Warsaw bluestone, of which the steps and bases of the columns are also made." Light cream terra-cotta forms various trimmings, and "the roof is to be covered with a dark red slate flashed and ornamented with quaint little copper dormers, in the windows of which will swing white latticed sashes." The porch will be supported by Ionic columns of terra-cotta, and in the centre of the wall space which it encloses will be a tablet of Sienna marble "bearing a suitable inscription." The entrance leads to a square vestibule wainscoted in quartered oak, of which wood the heavy outside door is to be made. The interior will be in its general effect one room, sixty-seven feet long and thirty feet wide, with a ceiling elliptical in form and reaching a height of eighteen feet in the centre, but "divided by paneled partitions nine feet in height into three rooms, the central of which is the reception hall or distribution room." On the right is the bookroom, occupying a space of twenty by thirty feet, "calculated to hold eventually 14,500 volumes," and at the left is the reading-room twenty-four and a half feet long by thirty wide, "from one corner of which extends a circular recessed alcove containing a bookcase designed for reference books."

This room "is wainscoted nine feet high, and at the end opposite its entrance is a broad open fireplace of brick tile and wrought iron, with a shelf of polished marble, supported by fœnice consoles. At either side of the fireplace are set broad paneled pilasters of wood which will be exquisitely carved. The cornice which is supported by these pilasters is identical in height with the wainscoting of the room, and forms the base to a round arched recess and at the same time a resting-place for portraits of the late Edmund Ira and Lucy M. Richards, in memory of whom the building is erected." A wing in the rear will contain a room eleven and a half by sixteen and a half feet in size with an open fireplace, devoted to the uses of the librarian and trustees.

"The finish of the interior is Renaissance in style, and the same dull red and old ivory effect obtained for the exterior is here reflected in a softer, more delicate and refined way in accordance with the finer detail here employed. Here the wainscoting is old ivory in tone, the doors, tables, counters and seats mahogany, which represents the yellowish red desired, and the ceiling, which is elliptical, is tinted in a soft dull red." Cypress is used in the bookroom with

MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS.

This town had at one time four organized companies of militia, and one company of cavalry whose members were chiefly from the town, and one independent foot company. One company, it is certain, was also organized during the war of 1812, for special service, and there may have been other such. Nothing has been ascertained regarding the cavalry company beyond the fact of its existence, and very little relating to the four militia companies. The names of their captains have been ascertained, however, and these are given in the order of their service.¹

NORTH COMPANY.

Mayhew Daggett,
John Robinson,
Jabez Ellis,
Jonathan Stanley,
John Stearns,
Ebenezer Bacon,
Israel Hatch,
Obed Robinson,
Jacob Graves,
George Bacon,
Israel Hatch, Jr.,
William Walcott,
Elihu Daggett,
Chester Bugbee,
Timothy E. Robinson.

EAST COMPANY.

John Daggett,
Stephen Richardson,
Moses Wilmarth,
Abiathar Richardson,
Caleb Parmenter,
Thomas French,
Jonathan Follett,
Jonathan Wilmarth,
Abiathar Richardson, Jr.,
Benjamin Polcom (Bolkecom?),
Edward Richardson,
Elkanah Briggs,
Samuel Carpenter,
Willard Blackinton.

SOUTH COMPANY.

John Foster,
Samuel Tyler,
Ebenezer Tyler,
Jacob Ide,
Joseph Tiffany,
Ebenezer Tyler, Jr.,
Daniel Read,
Ira K. Miller,
Harvey Ide,
Nathan H. Bliss.

WEST COMPANY.

Joseph Brown,
Elisba May,
Japheth Bicknell,
Timothy Gay,
Samuel Tingley,
Sylvanus Tingley,
Clark Sweetland,
Joel Robinson,
Samuel Shack,
Joseph Holmes.

The names of the first captains show that these companies must have been organized in the days of the war of the Revolution, and they were all in existence in 1834. Some years prior to that time several of our militia men figured prominently in a very interesting occurrence. In 1828 there was a brigade muster in Berkeley,² this State. The force consisted of five regiments, one squadron of cavalry, and one battalion of artillery; of this force the Fourth Regiment was commanded by Colonel Ira K. Miller, the squadron of cavalry by Major Jonathan Bliss, and the battalion of artillery by Major Seneca Sanford, all of this town.

The independent company's charter name was the "Washington Rifle Corps of Attleborough." In 1815 a petition was addressed to the Governor and Executive Council of the Com-

¹ The Editor is indebted to the late Lyman W. Daggett, for this list of captains' names.

² The incident, recently published in some newspaper, had connection with the second Nevada home in Berkeley, which was burned not long ago. The muster was on a field near that house.

For most of the information relating to this famous rifle corps I am indebted to Mr. Edwin R. Price, who courteously loaned me the book of the company's records. For some time into his possession on the death of his father, the last captain. Judging rightly, I am sure that the words of the old records themselves will carry more interest to the reader than any other, no matter how well chosen. I have let them tell their own story as far as possible. — EDITOR.

Lyman Pitcher,	Lucas Daggett,	Elias G. Richards,
Calvin Richards,	Bernard Maxey,	Jesse Whiting,
Payton Richards,	Nelson Morse,	Leonard Tift,
Spencer Richards,	Aaron White,	Virgil Blackinton,
Nathaniel Rand, Jr.,	George Hatch,	William Everett, Jr.,
Seamans Whiting,	Richard Everett,	Darwin Ellis,
Joseph Guild,	Richard Robinson,	William Ellis,
Leonard Blackinton,	Ebenezer H. Draper,	Orville Tyler,
Rufus S. Perry,	Daniel Daggett, Jr.,	John Bruce,
James Blackinton,	David T. Stanley,	Mark W. Baldwin,
Samuel Newell, 3d,	James Whittemore,	George Morse,
Ellis Fisher,	Elias S. Grant,	Charles Richardson,
Lehabod Richards,	Ephraim Jewett,	William Arnold,
Horatio N. Draper,	Lyman Lane,	William M. Drake,
Barton I. Draper,	Lewis Holmes,	Charles Whiting,
John Montgomery,	Horace Tift,	Ebenezer Fuller,
Jason B. Blackinton,	Watson Atherton,	Comfort Claffen,
Daniel F. Ellis,	Vernal Stanley,	John Bates,
Willard D. Blackinton,	David E. Holman,	David Whiting,
John Draper, Jr.,	Amos Sweet, Jr.,	Stephen Richardson,
Jonathan Day,	Lloyd French,	David H. Grant,
Hiram W. Titus,	George W. Horr,	Ezra S. Brownell,
Willard Richards,	Uriah Bowen,	George P. Foster,
Sam P. Fisher,	James Titus,	Daniel D. Sweet,
John Tift,	Otis T. Titus,	Joel Morse, Jr.,
Willard Blackinton,	Willard Jilson,	Lyman W. Daggett,
Hartford Field,	Richard Whitaker,	Horatio N. Babcock,
Abner Polsey,	Wm. A. Freeman,	George Shepardson,
Leonard Holmes,	Asa Fuller,	Atherton Wales,
Lewis Armstrong,	Leprilet Fuller,	Egbert R. Robinson,
Milton Freeman,	George Price,	Herman W. Briggs,
Nathan H. Bliss,	James B. Moulton,	Gilford Fuller,
Henry Carrique,	John Cole,	Charles Stanley,
Martin S. Witherell,	Hervey M. Richards,	Miller Babcock,
Onesemus Clark,	Warren Aldrich,	Calvin Claffen,
Milton W. Blackinton,	G. F. Starkey,	Jacob S. Capron,
Horace Foster,	Emory Gouward,	Loring Morse,
Noah Claffen, Jr.,	George L. Perry,	Geo. B. Aldrich,
Samuel M. Holman,	Harrison Wilmarth,	Joseph Hunt,
Adon B. Messenger,	Shepherd Witherell,	James Cummings,
Edwin B. Stanley,	Henry Bruggo,	Wm. B. Franklin,
Cyrus W. Blackinton,	John Wilmarth,	James M. Turner,
Otis T. Stanley,	Wm. A. Stanley,	James H. Horton,
Stephen D. Read,	Andrew Davison, Jr.,	Lorenzo Bullock,
James O. Blackinton,	James Warren,	David Bathington,
Ellis Fisher,	Alvan Bickford,	Cyril Sweet.

Of these men forty-seven enlisted August 3, 1815, and were therefore the original members. The latest enlistment mentioned is that of James H. Horton, in September, 1833. The height of a number of the men was found on the records, the tallest being Horatio N. Draper, who was six feet two inches, and the shortest Daniel F. Ellis, who was five feet five inches high. No special record of the first election of officers was found, but Eliah Daggett, Jr., was first captain and Chester Bugbee the first lieutenant. The first fife was Seamans Whiting, and the first drummer Ellis Fisher, and it was stipulated that he should own a share "equal to five dollars in the bass drum." The purchase of this same drum seems to have caused some trouble. It was at first suggested that one known to be for sale at sheriff's sale should be bought, but finally one in the

Olive Richards,	Hannah K. Grant,	Joan Jackson,
Azubah Blackinton,	Mariett Stanley,	Mindwell Cushing,
Emma Bowers,	Julia Holmes,	Martha Simpson,
Hannah S. Robinson,	Mary Holmes,	Sophia Richards,
Sarah R. Robinson,	Eliza Holmes,	Lydia Richards,
Leida Tyler,	Abigail Herring,	Amanda A. Draper,
Sally Tyler,	Maria Ellis,	Bebe Draper,
Ann Robinson,	Abigail M. Ellis,	Louisa S. Olney,
Azubah Towne,	Clarissa Barrows,	Rebecca Daggett,
Lucinta Towne,	Maria Barrows,	Fanny Richards,
Rebecca Stanley,	Abigail Newell,	Mary Gillmore,
Nancy Jackson,	Eunice R. Newell,	Sylvia Richards,
Abby Freeman,	Susan M. Draper,	Charlotte Day,
Nancy Simpson,	Hannah Richards,	Betsey Carriek,
Abby W. Draper,	Mandana Everett,	Sarah D. Robinson,
Rebecca Barton,	Clementine E. Foster,	Sally Hatch.
	Fanny Hatch.	

Largest subscription, \$1.25; smallest, fifty cents; average, about eighty-four cents; total, \$51.35.

The gentlemen responded to the above communication of the ladies on September 29, 1821, as follows:—

Mrs. Louisa T. Everett, Madam.

Permit us to express to you, and your liberal associates, our sincere thanks for the generous offer contained in your communication of the 21. inst. and also to signify our acceptance of the same.

We would most respectfully beg leave to wait on the Ladies, at Col. Hatch's, on Thursday the 11. of Oct. next at 2 o'clock P.M., for the purpose of receiving the proposed token of their Liberality and Patriotism: hoping that we shall never be unmindful of the strong obligation it imposes on us, to use our utmost exertions, to merit a continuance of their approbation.

Per Order,

Wm. Everett, Jr.,

Clerk of the
Washington Rifle Corps.

In pursuance of arrangements previously made, the company to the number of thirty-eight met at the house of Lieutenant Chester Bugbee on the appointed day. "At two o'clock the corps marched to Col. Hatch's and wheeled into line in front of his house, where the Ladies (subscribers for the Standard) in Uniforms, were paraded in a semicircle." This uniform of the ladies was a white cashmere fichu, with a colored border, and fringed—according to an eyewitness¹ of this interesting scene who is still living.

"Miss Sally Odell, attended by two young Ladies, presented the following Standard:—It was a splendid and appropriate one, and inscribed with the motto, "*Protect what your fathers obtained*"—and "took her place upon a platform in the middle of the circle. The Orator of the day, and visiting Officers in Uniform, followed and took post on the right of the Corps. After a salute from the Officers the STANDARD was presented by Miss Sally Odell, with the following Address:"

Gentlemen of the Washington Rifle Corps.

We are assembled here to-day, not to witness the RITUAL of a Monarchy, or to participate in the gaudy scenes of a regal Coronation; but for the pleasing and laudable purpose of placing in your hands, this symbol of triumph, and emblem of fame. At that eventful crisis, when our Fathers threw off the yoke of the British Tyranny, and secured our Independence,

¹ A. C. Cushing, H. B. S. & C. 1821.

follows. Our fathers did not forget to give tangible proof of their appreciation of the attentions bestowed upon them on that day. The clerk of the company was instructed to present their thanks to the orator, and they voted "that the sum of five dollars be presented to the Rev. Mr. Carrique, in consideration of his services on the 11th inst. — likewise, the sum of five dollars to Miss Sally Odell as a reward of merit, for the handsome style in which she presented the Standard to this corps, — also, the sum of one dollar to Mr. Cha^s Bicknee [probably Bicknell?] for ringing the bell, assisting in forming the procession, etc. etc. on that occasion."

On July 5, 1830, the Fourth being Sunday, the corps met at Samuel Newell's, where they "partook of a dinner prepared for the occasion by Mr. Newell. The corps then paraded in front of Mr. Newell's, and fired fifteen rounds, at 3 o'clock marched to the meeting house and escorted the Temperance Society, where an address was delivered by Esq. John Daggett, prepared for the occasion, — after service attended to manouevring and firing." By way of contrast to the manner the above-mentioned day was spent, the description found of a day's marching is given. September 24, 1831, there was a meeting at eight o'clock in the morning at Elias G. Richards' store. "The corps took up a line of march, on the way they was invited by M. W. Baldwin to take something to drink at Robinson, Jones & Co's store, and then they marched on their way to Mr. Newell's and Mr. Edward Richards invited the Corps to take something to drink with him, and they *excepted* [the intended meaning is obvious], and when they got to Mr. Newell's Inn the corps had another invitation to take something to drink from Mr. Samuel Newell, Jr. the corps dined to Mr. Newell's after dinner the corps took up a line of march for the *Precinck* on their way they had an invitation from Capt. Samuel Carpenter to take some wine with him and then the corps marched to Mr. Samuel Holman's store." This is the only recorded day on which entertainment of this nature was so frequently offered to the company and the occurrence may, perhaps, have been an unusual one. It is an incident which shows the custom of the times; but another proof that "as our fathers were, so are we," for from time immemorial marching seems to have been productive of such deep-seated thirst as only frequent and copious drafts of liquid, often such as the above, could ever tend to slake, and the day seemed to have been one of interest to him who transcribed its events.

Upon one occasion the parade was "in front of Mr. Holman's," where a target representing a "full sized Indian," had been placed. This had been procured by Captain David Holman, who offered a dollar to the man who should make the best shot. The distance is not named, but all the men present fired at this "Indian" and no doubt with zest and the wish that it was something more real than a "counterfeit presentment." The "best shot" was Mr. Milton Blackinton, who "consequently merited, and received the premium." In 1830 a sham fight occurred in East Attleborough. The training field, according to an eyewitness still living, was "about where Pine St. is now." The company met at Mr. Holman's, where they were entertained, and in the afternoon the battle took place. Twenty of the citizens of the town, dressed in Indian style, joined with the rifle corps against militia and other troops, under command of Colonel Isaac Miller. The records do not state which side was declared victorious.

In "pursuance of regimental orders" the corps met on October 20, 1832, in Norton, where the necessary inspection and exercises were gone through. The record relating to this occasion, and made two days later, was the last one found, and the entry concludes as follows: "The Corps were then joined by Capt. Ide, in Indian costume, bearing a colour with the following motto *Free Trade and Yankee Rights*." Here the clerk's record ends, though the company continued its existence for some years longer. These soldiers were never called upon to do actual active duty but once. This was during the construction of the Boston and Providence railroad, about 1836-38. A riot occurred among the Irish laborers near Canton, and John Daggett advised sending the company to quell the disturbance. Captain Holman marched with his men to the place in the night and the Irishmen at once yielded. The ringleaders were made prisoners and brought to this town.

March 28, 1840, the State Adjutant-General issued a general order approved by the Governor abolishing the standing militia companies, and May 7, 1841, he issued the order declaring them disbanded. The order was carried into effect here June 1, 1841, on which date this company was disbanded, its officers discharged, and the famous "Washington Volunteer Rifle Corps of Attleborough" ceased to exist.

Willard Blackinton, Rufus P. Barrow, Ephraim Dean, Daniel Babcock, Edward Richardson, and Noah Clafin. And they are accordingly authorized to reorganize and resume work as a Lodge.

Chas. W. Moore,
Rec. Grand Sec. Grand Lodge of Mass.

By order of the Grand Lodge,
Daniel Oliver,
Grand Secretary.

In Grand Lodge,
Sept. 14, 1859.

The above charter was by vote of Grand Lodge, this day again restored to the Petitioners named in the endorsement of Dec. 13, 1854. 5854.

Attest
Chas. W. Moore,
Grand Sec.

On the reverse side of the charter are the following permits:—

To all whom it may concern. This certifies that agreeable to a petition presented the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts at their annual communication on the eleventh day of Decr A. L. 5811 by a large majority of the officers and members of Bristol Lodge, established by Charter in the town of Norton, in the county of Bristol, it was unanimously voted that permission be granted the—petitioners to remove that Lodge from Norton to the town of Attleboro' East Parish in said County, there and there only, to hold their future meetings, and that the Grand Recording Secretary be instructed to confirm the same by an endorsement on the Charter of said Lodge. In testimony whereof, and by virtue of the above Vote—I have hereunto affixed my Signature.

John Proctor,
Grand Secretary.

Grand Lodge of Mass. March 10th 5830. Voted that Bristol Lodge be permitted to assemble in Attleboro' instead of Attleboro' East Parish.

Copy of Record,
Attest Thomas Power,
Grand Sec.

The first meeting whose regular record is preserved here was held June 7, 1813, the following members being present: Abiathar Richardson, Jr., Jabez Newell, Luther Cobb, Obed Robinson, Jr., George W. Robinson, Joseph Lang, Jebel Ingraham, John E. Robinson, James Warren, Remember Carpenter, Thomas Stanley, Edward Price, Benjamin Hubbard, Amos Sweet, Naman Bishop, Manning Richards, Edward Foster, Thomas Williams, Samuel Carpenter, William Fisher. The early meetings of the lodge were generally held in the afternoon, the hour varying from two to five o'clock. In June, 1814, Chester Bugbee, Elihu Daggett, Sylvanus Tingley, and Luther Cobb were chosen a committee to select the music for the dedication of the hall. September 8, 1814, "Voted to procure Blinds for the windows of the new hall, and to have them ready and hung before Dedication," and two gentlemen were deputed "to procure the same." This hall was Bolkeon's hall, an L which Mr. Bolkeon built on to his tavern for the use of the Masons. The music for the dedication seemed difficult to arrange, for later Remember Carpenter and Edward Richards, Jr., were added to the above committee. Jabez Newell, Henry Sweet, and William Verry were requested to confer "with Bro. Benj. Bolkeon upon a ball of tune, for the supper," and were "a committee to make the necessary arrangements for the day of our dedication. The lodge also "voted that 25cts. be added to the price of Gentlemen's tickets, to be received by Br. Bolkeon in favor of the Lodge to defray the expense of music Initiation;" the original price of the tickets was not stated. On October 27 it was "voted to Choose a committee of nine to assist in making preparation and accommodation for the Ladies on dedication day." Either the task must have been considered formidable or the preparations been very elaborate since so large a committee was required.

Up to this time the lodge had been prosperous, but in 1833 the membership had so largely decreased as to render it necessary to return the charter to the Grand Lodge. This was due to the anti-Mason excitement which commenced in western New York and spread over the whole land, creating such an antagonistic spirit toward the entire order that in many places Masonry was forced apparently to die out, and its adherents dared to remain faithful only in secret. In time this wave of fierce opposition subsided, and in 1854 several of the Masons here petitioned to have their "time honored document" restored to them. This was done, but for some reason little action was taken until 1859, when the charter was again restored, and since that time the order has been continually increasing in membership and gaining in influence. Mr. Ezekiel Bates was at that time the highest Mason in town, and after the return of the charter he initiated those who presented themselves for degrees. Dr. James W. Foster was the first to be received into the lodge and his son John Bates the second.

Bristol Lodge for many years owned a building in North Attleborough and their hall in it was dedicated February 9, 1876. The accommodations for all purposes are ample, the hall is well furnished and the special appointments are handsome. A remarkable fac-simile copy of the old charter hangs over the Worthy Master's chair and an anteroom contains a case filled with ancient and beautifully wrought regalia. It is fitting that the picture of George Washington should meet the eye of both members and visitors as they enter the precincts of the lodge, for as a Mason he is pointed to as a shining example, and as a man and a citizen he was equally worthy close imitation.¹

The following is a list of the Past Masters of Bristol Lodge from 1813 to the present time: Abiathar Richardson, Jr., William Fisher, Edward Richardson, Moses Richardson, George W. Robinson, D. Babcock, S. G. Bates, Willard Blackinton, George B. Richards, Samuel S. Ginnodo, Charles E. Smith, John B. Maintain, Thomas G. Sandland, Obed C. Turner, Francis S. Fairbanks, Samuel S. Bugbee, Arthur E. Coddling, James A. Coddling, Theodore B. Hazzard, Walter E. Barden. The officers for 1887 were: W. M., Elton I. Franklin; S. W., Frederic B. Byram; J. W., George E. Hawes; Secretary, Charles F. Guild; Treasurer, Owen B. Bestor; Chaplain, Samuel H. Bugbee; Marshal, Edwin D. Sturtevant; S. D., William O. Clark; J. D., Edward G. Pratt; S. S., Edward A. Phillips; J. S., Frank Cutler; I. S., Daniel H. Ralph; Orator, James A. Coddling; Tyler, Thomas R. Jones. The lodge numbers about one hundred and fifteen members. The building has recently been sold, but it continues to occupy its halls as before.

EZEKIEL BATES' LODGE.

The original organization of this lodge at East Attleborough occurred January 12, 1870, under the necessary dispensation from the Grand Lodge of the State. This dispensation expired September 6, 1871, and at that time grand officers came here to regularly institute the lodge and install its officers. There were twenty-four charter members. Since its institution this lodge has grown rapidly and almost uninterruptedly, and at present has about one hundred and seven members.

The Past Masters are: Daniel H. Smith, Albert R. Crosby, George F. Bicknell, Edwin L. Crandall, Charles E. Bliss, Herbert N. Mason, Benjamin P. King, William J. Thompson. Officers for 1887: W. M., Edward C. Martin; S. W., J. Lyman Sweet; J. W., Clarence E. Richards; Secretary, Orville P. Richardson, Jr.; Treasurer, Fred. G. Mason; Chaplain, Hiram A. Philbrook; Marshal, William H. Goff; T. D., Eugene H. Richardson; J. D., George H. Herriek; S. S., William H. Sargent; J. S., Wilbur R. Wetherell; I. S., Thomas J. Wainwright; Orator, Albert W. Winsor; Tyler, James Howarth.

KING HEAM ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

This is a flourishing chapter in East Attleborough. It received its charter March 7, 1876. The officers for the year 1887 were as follows: M. E. H. P., Owen B. Bestor; E. K., Arthur T.

¹It is a significant fact that he was admitted to the order before becoming the sage of Mount Vernon. He was the first, and is probably the only person in the country of whose fact and name it is stated that no one is eligible for membership in a Masonic lodge before attaining majority. It was long thought that it was an impossible thing to specify the exact date of his birth.

Lodge of Massachusetts, with the ceremonies of the order in ancient form. This building was completed in July, 1875, and dedicated on the tenth of the following November. The upper story is reserved for the use of the lodge, is handsomely furnished, and admirably adapted to the purpose for which it was designed.

The present membership is one hundred and forty. Since its organization the thirty-two gentlemen whose names are here given have served the lodge as Noble Grand; namely: Daniel Evans, T. G. Sandland, D. D. Kent, F. G. Whitney, A. N. Quinby, E. A. Luther, W. J. Follett, E. R. Darling, John Thompson, J. N. Hall, S. A. Gross, F. Doll, S. Totten, H. G. Grant, C. F. Jackson, F. L. Burden, F. G. Pate, E. S. M. Perkins, George W. Fisher, George Dietz, L. V. Witherell, L. C. Tift, G. W. French, B. Porter, Jr., A. Totten, B. C. Rhodes, H. E. Coombs, G. B. Whiting, D. Thompson, W. D. Wemmell, H. L. Kent, R. G. Temple. The officers for 1887 were P. G., R. G. Temple; N. G., E. J. Bacon; V. G., William McCoombs; Recording Secretary, David Thompson; Treasurer, Horace L. Kent; Representatives, D. Thompson, James Totten, L. C. Tift; Permanent Secretary, Ambrose Kurtz.

HOWARD ENCAMPMENT.

Until 1846 Aurora Lodge was the only society of Odd Fellows in town, but on August 5 of that year Howard Encampment Number 19 was instituted in the hall occupied by Aurora Lodge. It had a checkered existence for a few years, and finally, in 1850, surrendered its charter. This was restored February 21, 1876, at which time the lodge was re-instituted, and since then it has been steadily increasing, both in numbers and financial strength, until now its condition is in every way prosperous. About eighteen gentlemen have held the highest office in this lodge, that of Chief Patriarch, and many of them are prominent in other orders. The officers who were elected in 1887 are as follows: C. P., Walter E. Cook; H. P., Sullivan Eaton; S. W., A. Rosenberg; Treasurer, A. N. Quinby; R. S., David Thompson; J. W., F. R. DeLisle. The number of members is sixty-six.

ORIENT LODGE.

With the increase in the population of the town there was a corresponding increase in the membership of Aurora Lodge, after its revival, and in due time there was a demand for another lodge of the same order, and Orient Lodge, No. 165, was organized. It was composed at first entirely of members of Aurora Lodge, thirty-four in number. A petition for a charter, signed by the late Gideon M. Horton and twenty-nine other gentlemen, was sent to the Grand Lodge of the State, and the organization of the new lodge soon followed. It was instituted October 2, 1873. Its first place of meeting was in Briggs' Block, in the hall now occupied by the Grand Army. This hall was used for eleven years, but at the end of that time it was thoroughly outgrown, and on August 10, 1884, the lodge removed to larger quarters in Horton's Block. Here it had a convenient and well-furnished hall. It has elaborate and costly paraphernalia, and has attained an excellent position as to numbers and financial condition. Much effective charitable work has been done in looking after sick and needy members, and this care has been extended to the children of those who have died. As in similar organizations, a watch is also kept over the conduct of all members. That the existence of this lodge has been uncommonly prosperous is shown by the fact that at the end of fourteen years it numbered one hundred and sixty-eight members. In May, 1887, it moved into the commodious and elegant quarters prepared for it in Bates Opera House.

The first elective officers were: N. G., Gideon M. Horton; V. G., John Baxter; R. S., Elijah R. Read; Treasurer, Stephen T. Smith; P. S., C. H. Pond. The following named gentlemen have held the office of Noble Grand: G. M. Horton, John Baxter, E. R. Read, George A. Adams, C. C. Wilmarth, W. S. Wilbur, W. H. Goff, N. Hicks, J. J. Horton, D. E. Adams, C. F. Hawwood, J. W. Pratt, Joseph Hawwood, L. A. Sweet, V. A. D. Dean, W. C. Sargent, E. B. Bromiley, H. A. Clark, F. S. Sweet, H. E. Durgin, John Slater, M. L. Chapman, C. W. Blackinton. Officers for 1887: N. G., E. D. Gilmore; V. G., E. D. Guild; R. S., J. S. Richards; T., H. L. Carpenter; Warden, G. A. Taylor; Con., W. E. Newman; Chaplain, John Slater; R. S. N. G., H. E. White; L. S. N. G., E. L. Waterman; R. S. V. G., W. E. Carpenter; L. S. V. G., H. E. Briggs; R. S. S., F. E. Smith; L. S. S., W. Ashley; I. G., L. Carpenter; O. G., E. C. Bartlowood.

Lodge of this State. Its charter membership was nineteen, since increased to thirty-two, the present number. The lodge is in a prosperous condition, and there are constant applications for membership. The following are the officers elected for 1887: Dictator, J. Norman Hall; Vice-Dictator, Henry C. Cowell; Assistant Dictator, George F. Cheever; Treasurer, F. G. Pate; Representative, W. H. Kling; Financial Representative, L. V. Witherell; Chaplain, La Burton Warren; Guide, L. H. Pherzon; Inside Sentinel, L. H. Pherzon; Outside Sentinel, C. Dobra.

ATTLEBOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE ROYAL ARCANUM.

This council, No. 366, was organized August 8, 1879, with nineteen charter members, and it was instituted by officers of the Grand Council of Massachusetts. The laws of this association afford to full-rate members an insurance of \$3,000, and to half-rate members one of \$1,500. Since its organization this lodge has lost six full members: Edwin J. Horton, Elicot Hunt, Charles E. Hayward, Job Savery, Benjamin J. Angell, and Gideon M. Horton, and has paid out on account of these deaths the sum of \$18,000. It has sixty members, and is in a thriving condition. The following were officers for 1887: Regent, Charles C. Wilmarth; Vice-Regent, A. Vinton Cobb; Past Regent, William Nerney; Secretary, Charles O. Sweet; Treasurer, Lucius Z. Carpenter; Chaplain, Benjamin P. King; Orator, David E. Makepeace; Collector, Charles A. Wetherell; Guide, Frederick M. Ellis; Warden, Eugene M. Skinner; Sentry, J. Shepard Richards.

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH COUNCIL, ROYAL ARCANUM.

This council was instituted March 15, 1887, by Grand Secretary H. S. Worrall. Its place of meeting is Pythian Hall, and there are thirty members. At the time of the institution the following officers were installed: Past Regent, J. A. Coddington; Regent, W. H. Adair; Vice-Regent, O. W. Clifford; Orator, G. W. Lyman; Chaplain, C. A. Reed; Secretary, Frank H. Cutler; Treasurer, G. W. Waterman; Collector, H. H. Hill; Guide, George E. Cummings; Warden, N. E. Moore; Sentry, C. H. Peck; Trustees, E. R. Price, E. S. Cargill, B. S. Freeman.

MAGNOLIA COUNCIL, NO. 121, AMERICAN LEGION OF HONOR.

The charter for this council was given to thirty persons, and it was instituted at East Attleborough, May 24, 1880. Its present number of members is sixty-six. Officers for 1887: Commander, Charles M. Rhodes; Vice-Commander, Mrs. Elizabeth Stewart; Past Commander, F. D. Hall; Secretary, R. Zequeira; Treasurer, Mrs. Emily Cooper; Collector, John L. Tobitt; Chaplain, Mrs. Isaac Pettis; Orator, John Cooper; Guide, Eben Hirons; Warden, G. P. Williams; Sentry, Isaac Pettis.

MASSASOIT COUNCIL, NO. 270, AMERICAN LEGION OF HONOR.

This council was instituted at North Attleborough, July 30, 1880. Its charter members numbered nineteen, and its present membership is thirty-three. It meets in Pythian Hall on Washington Street. This organization insures its members for sums varying from \$500 to \$5,000. The officers for 1887 were: Past Commander, E. R. Richardson; Commander, Herbert K. Sturdy; Vice-Commander, Hamilton A. Kendall; Secretary, Jesse D. Bates; Treasurer, Charles T. Guild; Orator, Horace M. Scribner; Collector, Paul Schmidt; Chaplain, Benjamin W. Goode; Guide, Ira V. Dunbar; Warden, Samuel Hamlin; Sentry, W. P. Whittemore; Medical Examiner, Dr. F. L. Burden.

DIONYS LODGE, NO. 317.

This is an association of a similar nature to the above, and belongs to a German order. Its members are German citizens entirely, and in its meetings no language but the German is used. The order in this country started in 1849, and now extends all over the States and into some of the Territories, and since its commencement has paid to beneficiaries more than \$800,000. The principle of the order is "Charity," the motto, "Friendship, Love, and Humanity," which is almost exactly like that of Odd Fellowship—"Friendship, Love, and Truth." Dionys Lodge was instituted July 29, 1873, at North Attleborough, and has a present membership of fifty-six. It pays to sick members \$5 per week, and in case of death the sum of \$500 to

have always been, however, "the faithful few," whose courage has never failed, and whose zeal has always been practically manifested. The work, though varying in amount from year to year, has never been entirely interrupted, and much tangible good has been accomplished. There is now a growing appreciation on the part of the general community of the benefits resulting from the labors of this association, and appeals for assistance in carrying out its purposes have met with very liberal responses. There are at present eighty active and twenty-eight associate members. Increased efforts and more extended work are contemplated, and the association looks forward to a building of its own, as soon as practicable.¹

The following gentlemen have served as presidents: Nathan C. Luther, three terms; Charles E. Bliss, one term; Hartford S. Babcock, one term; Alvin F. Wood, one term; Edwin J. Horton, eight terms; Homer M. Daggett, two terms; Samuel W. Gould, four terms. Following are the various secretaries in their order: Calvin G. Hill, Edwin J. Horton, Job B. Savery, George E. Luther, William H. Gould, Benjamin P. King, Albert H. Tucker. Officers for 1887 were: President, A. Vinton Cobb; Secretary, G. M. Chace.

WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION.

The rise of this large and powerful organization throughout the land must be attributed to the temperance raids by the women of Ohio in 1874. Fanatics these were called — the leaders in every reformation are; unwomanly — perhaps so in many instances; overstepping the bounds of their proper sphere in life — that may be to some extent true; interfering in what was none of their business — no; too many of them through husbands, brothers, and sons were suffering from the evils of the dreadful curse they longed and sought to remove. They certainly placed themselves in a position to induce the severe criticism which was liberally bestowed, and their methods may have been unwise, but the end has justified the means. From that little band of crazy enthusiasts, as they were termed, has sprung up a great order of women banded together by the strongest tie — a common love and a common sorrow — to fight the universal ill, which is acknowledged to be a terrible scourge. The members of this order are of every rank in life, from the wife and daughter of the laborer to ladies of the highest cultivation and rank; so indeed were the crusaders, many of them being ladies of refinement and of high social position. The members of the unions are doing their varied forms of woman's work in a womanly way, but none the less in a determined and business-like manner, and many forward steps have been taken and much good has been already accomplished. There are town, county, and State leagues, each one independent in its own special work, but mutually dependent in that common to all, and above and uniting all there is a grand or national league. These are all thoroughly organized, their business affairs properly managed and well conducted. To the fundamental work — which is still supreme — are added various forms of charitable work, as location or circumstance may dictate, and especially the remedy for ills which are engendered by other vices than that of intemperance is sought for. Earnest and conscientious efforts have been and still are being put forth in every direction possible, and each year brings encouragements not only in increase of numbers and formation of new unions, but in other visible good results to the labors.

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Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. H. Rice; and an executive board numbering six ladies. The first elected president served but three months, and since that time the following named ladies have occupied that office: Mrs. Copeland served nearly three years; Mrs. Thompson, one year; Mrs. Kendall, one year; Mrs. Copeland, again, for one year; Mrs. Wood, one year; Mrs. Draper, four years, and still continues.

This union has devoted itself chiefly to the distribution of temperance literature, and the suppression of that of an impure character, to Sunday-school, juvenile, and evangelistic work, to press and legal work, to town and county fairs, narcotics and tobacco, and to temperance instruction for the children of the public schools. A considerable and encouraging work has been accomplished, and the union is prospering, with a membership of one hundred and thirteen.

The officers in 1887 were: President, Mrs. Lafayette Draper; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Eugene Fisher; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Copeland; Treasurer, Mrs. A. G. Hatch; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. J. G. Barden, Mrs. J. B. Hatch, Mrs. A. M. Sperry, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Pliny Thomas; these with the other officers forming the executive board.

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION.

This union was organized October 15, 1886. It has at present sixty-three active members and twenty-three honorary members. Its work has been especially in the Flower Mission, temperance literature, and amongst railroad employees, and it has been carried on with much zeal and enthusiasm.

Great efforts have been made in this part of the town to secure signers to the temperance pledge, and the Reform Club has also claimed the attention of the union. The children in the Sunday-schools were pledged, and in 1880 a society named the Children's Gospel Temperance Society was organized by Mrs. Kendall and Mrs. Copeland, and out of that has grown the present children's society. In 1883 the name was changed to the Band of Hope, and in 1885 to the present one of Loyal Legion. Since this society was first formed four hundred and fifty names have been enrolled upon its books, and it is now in a very prosperous condition. In the various ladies' temperance unions the aim is as far as possible to first set the children right, and through them—by their influence in great measure—to reach and benefit parents and elders, and in these as in general charities this has proved to be an efficient way to accomplish the desired ends.

KELLOGG DIVISION, NO. 115, SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

This society was instituted February 7, 1885, and has its hall for meetings in Horton's Block. The officers for 1887 were: W. P., Charles D. Knight; W. A., Harry Carlyle; R. S., William Miller; A. R. S., Frank Stearns; F. S., Hattie Mallory; T., Charles Streeter; Chaplain, Samuel Hodson; Con., Bertha Pease; A. C., Annie Dow; I. S., Miss Kingman; O. S., Clark Newell.

CARLISLE LODGE, NO. 200, INDEPENDENT ORDER OF GOOD TEMPLARS.

This lodge was instituted September 22, 1886, and also meets in Horton's Block. Its officers for the year 1887 were: W. C. T., Sheldon Williams; W. S., Sanford L. Wood; W. F. S., E. C. Newell; W. Treasurer, Alfred Mowry.

HOPE LODGE, NO. 116, SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

This lodge meets at Central Church, Attleborough Falls, and was instituted March 22, 1885. Following are the officers for 1887: W. P., William H. Robinson; W. A. R. S., Valentine Denzer; A. R. S., Charles Carpenter; F. S., C. N. Richardson; T., H. D. Dean; Chaplain, Maggie Denzer; C., Cora Miller; A. S., Mrs. Jesse Andrews; P. W. P., G. O. Jenness; I. S., Samuel Miller; O. S., E. C. Stanley.

¹Or Ray of Hope Division, Sons of Temperance.

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Abstract—This study examined the effects of a 10-week, 8-hour per week, community-based, after-school program on the self-esteem and self-efficacy of 100 African American middle school students. The program was designed to provide students with a safe, supportive environment in which to learn and grow. The results of the study indicated that the program had a positive effect on the self-esteem and self-efficacy of the students. The findings suggest that community-based, after-school programs can be an effective way to improve the self-esteem and self-efficacy of African American middle school students.

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All data reported herein were obtained from a survey of 1000 randomly selected households in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. During 1991, the Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Intentions (SCAI) was conducted by the Survey Research Center at the University of Maryland. A detailed description of the data is available in the SCAI report (University of Maryland, 1992). The SCAI was designed to provide information on the attitudes and intentions of the Washington, DC metropolitan area population toward various issues related to the environment. The SCAI was conducted by the Survey Research Center at the University of Maryland.

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During the last century of the existence of the Soviet Union, the scientific and technical base of the country had been continuously raised to new heights, and the scientific sector, together with the other sectors of the economy, had achieved a great development. During the years that we passed in the Soviet Union, we in the United States, among others, persons of scientific and technical training, could not but feel that the flow of scientific knowledge, the flow of information, was not only increasing but also becoming more and more important. Of the important and necessary steps toward this goal, the first three have been completed: freedom of movement, free press, and free exchange of ideas. Communication and exchange are necessary in order to achieve the goal of the free flow of information and free flow of knowledge.

¹ The authors of this book are: Dr. Daniel H. Haugh, Dr. George Macklin, Everett A. Gifford, Kenneth L. McElmurry and William H. Harrison.

Source: *U.S. Census Bureau, Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1992*.

*This figure was prepared by the author of the article. It is not necessarily endorsed by the AHA. The author would like to thank David Schwartz of the AHA for his assistance during the preparation of this figure.

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of wealth and business influence in that village, the Falls, and Plainville. The meeting place was a room in Barrows' Block. The officers elected for 1887 were as follows: President, Edward R. Price; Vice-Presidents, Henry F. Barrows, Samuel E. Fisher, and Edward E. Barrows; Secretary, F. B. Byram; Treasurer, Henry F. Barrows, Jr. Although its condition was flourishing it was decided to abolish this organization, chiefly because there are so many others to maintain, and that was accordingly done in February, 1887.

ATTLEBOROUGH BOARD OF TRADE.

In November, 1881, this board was organized with about twenty-five members. The present number is twenty-nine. The first president was Joseph M. Bates. The second president, and the one holding that office in 1887, was Daniel Smith; the vice-president, James H. Sturdy; and the secretary and treasurer, Orville Richardson, Jr. The board has a room in Horton's Block. [This organization has passed out of existence.]

COMPANY C. ASSOCIATION.

The real beginning of this association was a torchlight company which was formed in the East village during the Garfield and Arthur campaign in the autumn of 1880, and it gave itself the name of Company C. In the next presidential campaign, that of Blaine and Logan, "many of the old boys, with some new ones, formed a company, and adopted the old name." On election night, November 4, 1884, they secured Room No. 19 in Horton Block and made arrangements for receiving election returns there. During that evening it was decided to form a permanent organization, and a committee was appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws. On November 11 this committee presented its report, which was accepted by the adoption of the constitution and by-laws prepared, and the name of Company C. Association was formally assumed. The following officers were elected at that time: President, E. S. Norton; First Vice-President, George A. Adams; Second Vice-President, E. W. Rhodes; Secretary, Fred. L. Morse; Treasurer, John McDonald; Executive Committee, C. H. Chappell, W. H. Blaney, W. L. King, E. S. Horton, and B. J. Angell; Auditing Committee, Fred. L. LeBaron, George A. Adams, and E. W. Rhodes. The number of members at the organization was forty-two.

The object of the association is set forth in the preamble to the constitution: "The object of the Association shall be the maintenance and promulgation of the principles of the Republican party, literary entertainment and social enjoyment."

The officers for 1887-88 were: President, E. S. Horton; First Vice-President, W. B. Allen; Second Vice-President, W. L. King; Secretary, C. J. McClatchey; Assistant Secretary, J. A. Thayer; Treasurer, W. J. Newman; Executive Committee, George Randall, A. T. Wales, W. L. King, W. B. Allen, and F. L. LeBaron; Auditing Committee, C. E. Richards, J. A. Thayer, and F. L. LeBaron. At this time the membership was eighty-seven. [The Association remained in the room first occupied until November, 1888, when it removed to Room No. 11 on the same floor of Horton Block. On July 2, 1888, it removed to the suite of rooms now occupied on the third floor of the same building. This consists of reception, reading, and billiard room, parlor and anteroom. "The number on its rolls at present—Feb. 1894—is 242. The success of the Asso' is chiefly due to the personal interest taken by its members, the low cost which it has been, \$3.00 per year for dues since its organization, and its exceptionally fine list of periodicals, costing about a hundred dollars a year for subscriptions. Much of the success of the Asso' is due Ex Pres't E. S. Horton, whose zeal in behalf of the organization has been unflagging since its inception, and who still retains a lively interest in it. He was its Pres't from its organization until Nov. 3rd 1893, when he declined to serve longer. He had several times before tried to retire, but the members would not hear to it." His successor is George A. Adams, Esq.]

BANKS.

The town has two national and one savings bank, and all are in a satisfactory successful condition.

The Attleborough Bank was started in 1836, and chartered by the State. Following is the act:

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE ATTLEBOROUGH BANK.

Jacob Bolkeom, Johnathan Bliss, and Richard Robinson their associates and successors, are hereby created a corporation, by the name of the President, Directors and Company of the

ATTLEBOROUGH LOAN AND FUND ASSOCIATION, continuing about seven years, and on January 1, 1876, it was reorganized for the second time under the present name.

Shares are issued as desired at two dollars per month and put at interest. Upon the same principle as that of savings banks, the accumulations are added to the principal and drawn at the option of the shareholders. January 31, 1887, the loans on real estate and stock shares amounted to over \$174,000 — this is a sum continually on the increase — and the entire assets of the association were \$190,679.86. There were then twelve series of shares, numbering in all twelve hundred and eighteen, with a cash value of \$2,442.98. The rate per cent. earned during 1887 was five and three-fourths. The amount of the guarantee fund was \$3,946.40.

The first president of the association was Lorenzo Makepeace, who held the office about a year; following him was Willard Blackinton, who continued about the same length of time; then Joseph W. Capron was elected and he still continues in the office, having retained it for fully thirty-two years, through all the changes and under all the titles. In the twelfth annual report of the present-named association the following list of officers is given: President, Joseph W. Capron; Vice-President, James H. Sturdy; Secretary and Treasurer, John T. Bates; Directors, J. M. Bates, S. N. Carpenter, A. B. Carpenter, E. S. Horton, G. F. Bicknell, William H. Smith, M. B. Short, George A. Dean, F. I. Babcock; Trustees, J. M. Bates, A. B. Carpenter; Loan Committee, J. M. Bates, S. N. Carpenter, Mace B. Short; Financial Committee, S. N. Carpenter, F. I. Babcock, Mace B. Short.

ATTLEBOROUGH AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

This was first known as THE FARMERS AND MECHANICS ASSOCIATION. During the winter of 1868-69 a course of agricultural lectures was given in the vestry of the Baptist Church by Dodge Howard. At the close of these lectures the proposition was made to form a farmers' club in town. The gentlemen present at the time this proposition was made fully approved of the idea suggested, and a meeting was appointed for March 29, to be held at the Falls school-house. This meeting was held and various officers and committees elected *pro tem*. The purpose of the association was declared to be "the advancement of agriculture as an art, and as a science," and a constitution and by-laws were drafted and later accepted and adopted. At the next meeting held the following permanent officers were elected: President, George Price; Vice-Presidents, W. H. Tiffany, S. S. Guild, S. M. Stanley; Secretary, Elliot Hunt; Treasurer, Eli-sha G. May.

In August of the same year a field meeting was held on the farm of S. M. Stanley. This was something quite novel, and a decided advance in the history of farmers' clubs. At the annual meeting held in July, 1869, it was voted to have reports of the various meetings of the association sent to *The Massachusetts Ploughman*, *Boston Cultivator*, *New England Farmer*, and *Pawtucket Chronicle*. There were field meetings held subsequently at Henry Richardson's and Charles E. Hayward's at which addresses were made by Mr. Leander Wetherell of the *Cultivator*, and various members of the club. The first "fair and market day" of the association was held on October 14, 1869, and it was celebrated at the old town house.

It was in March, 1879, that the first steps were taken towards procuring grounds and buildings. The tract purchased is near Robinsonville, at the junction of the two roads leading from East to North Attleborough. A building one hundred feet long and sixty feet wide with a mansard roof was erected, and proves to be very well suited for its chief purposes. Besides this there are various other buildings such as the requirements of such an association demand; and the racing track, a half-mile in length, is said to be one of the best in New England. The amount of money expended upon these buildings and grounds was about \$25,000. They were appropriately dedicated September 20, 1871, the oration being delivered by Hon. George B. Loring, of Salem, and the following month the annual exhibition was held there for the first time. This society has been of great benefit to agriculturists of the vicinity, and the town has reason to feel a goodly degree of pride in the yearly fairs, which are a real credit to our farmers, and the times of their occurrence are great gala days to hundreds, perhaps we should say thousands, of people for miles around.

The association had but three presidents previous to the reorganization. George Price held the office from 1869 to 1877, Charles E. Hayward from 1877 to 1886, and Eli-sha G. May was elected in 1886 and served till May, 1887. The other officers last chosen were: Vice-Presidents,

ATTLEBOROUGH GASLIGHT COMPANY.

This company was formed in 1857, and Dr. Edward Sanford was elected its first president, G. A. Whipple its first treasurer, and Jonathan Peck the first superintendent. The works were built on what is now Dunham Street, near Pine Street, then at a considerable distance from the village, but now quite near its centre, and they were enlarged in 1873. The present length of street pipe is 18,400 feet, the number of consumers 172, and the amount of consumption about 5,448,500 cubic feet yearly. Gas is carried through all the principal streets of the village, north to Blackinton's and south as far as the new residence of Mr. John Cummings, on South Main Street. At first the gas here was made of rosin, but the war caused such a rise in the price of that material that it became necessary to make the change to coal gas, and since 1867 that has been the kind produced. In the month of January of that year twenty thousand feet of gas were made; at the present time the daily production exceeds that amount.

In 1882 new buildings were erected, and these contain all the facilities for the proper production of good gas. The holding capacity of the establishment had become quite inadequate, as a large amount of gas is consumed in the village, especially in the shops and opera house, and additions in this direction have recently been made which provide all the space required for that purpose. This is a very well-managed company, those "most actively connected with it being some of our public-spirited business men." In proof of this may be cited the fact that the former price of \$6.50 per thousand feet has been reduced to \$2.25, with a better quality of gas. A large share of the late success of the company is due to the efficiency of the superintendent, Mr. Capron. The officers for 1887 were: President, J. W. Capron; Vice-President, G. N. Crandall; Secretary and Treasurer, A. W. Sturdy; Directors, J. W. Capron, G. N. Crandall, S. W. Carpenter, A. W. Sturdy, William M. Fisher, E. S. Horton, G. A. Dean; Trustees, J. W. Capron, G. N. Crandall; Auditors, G. A. Dean, S. W. Carpenter, E. S. Horton; Superintendent, E. S. Capron.

ATTLEBOROUGH FIRE DISTRICT.

Upon the town book, under date October 12, 1859, may be found the following record: "Voted \$1,000 reward for detection and conviction of person who set fire to Steam Power Co.'s building." This reward was never claimed, and that matter is still covered with mystery, but one of the results of the fire proved to be beneficial. So helpless did the people find themselves in the face of this fire, which for hours threatened the complete destruction of the entire central portion of the village, that the serious attention of the citizens was turned toward the question of fires, and the urgent need of providing more adequate means of extinguishing them than hastily collected wooden buckets or a few wet blankets provided by private individuals proved to be was fully realized and acknowledged.

Somewhat upon the principle of locking the door securely after the thief has escaped with the stolen property, the damage having been done and the fire being thoroughly out, means of prevention were taken. November 19, 1859, the town constituted the school districts number fifteen, eighteen, and twenty-one a fire district, and a fire department was established therein. Joseph W. Capron was chosen clerk, and a board of engineers consisting of one chief and nine assistants was appointed. These were: Wheaton Briggs, chief, and Ezekiel Bates, Jesse R. Carpenter, Henry Weaver, Willard Blackinton, Augustus A. Starkey, David E. Holman, Handel N. Daggett, George N. Crandall, George J. Sturdy, assistant engineers. A hand engine was purchased, and lodged in a small building at the foot of Bank Street, which was the engine-house for many years, and was the place where the fire company's meetings were held. It took twenty-four men to manage that engine, and it is carefully preserved as a souvenir of "the good old times." For many years the fire companies were entirely voluntary; later the men were paid while on active duty at the rate of payment per hour in their respective shops, and in 1880 the rule was made that they should be paid thirty cents an hour whenever they were training, as well as when they were engaged in actual service. About 1885 the fire and water districts were united by an act of the Legislature. Since the establishment of the waterworks only hose-carts have been necessary, as thus far the pressure they supply has proved to be sufficient for the needs of the fire department. There are two hose companies: D. H. Smith, No. 1, on South Main Street, and Union, No. 2, on Dunham Street, corner of Union Street;

ATTLEBOROUGH IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT.

A movement for lighting the streets in the East village by private subscription was started by Joseph M. Bates and the late William D. Witherth, and the Improvement District was the outgrowth of this movement. The district was organized in 1875 by action of the town which was taken on November 22 of that year under provision of the Statutes of 1870. This and the water district were together and included the same territory until the union of the latter with the fire district. The Improvement District Act provides for the care of libraries, sidewalks, lighting of streets, employment of policemen, watchmen, etc.

The first prudential committee was composed of the following gentlemen: Albert M. Everett, J. L. Carpenter, Mace B. Short. The first secretary was Charles O. Sweet, and the first treasurer Shepard W. Carpenter. The latter served until May, 1880, when he declined a reelection and Mr. Sweet became treasurer and continues to hold that office in connection with that of secretary. The prudential committee for 1887 were L. M. Stanley, E. S. Horton, H. A. Bodman.

This district had in charge especially the lighting of the streets, and when at the annual meeting of 1887 the town voted to assume that expense its business was virtually at an end. The treasurer had in his hands at that time a cash balance of over \$1,100, and at the annual meeting of the district it was voted to direct him to place all funds in his possession at interest, subject to the approval of the prudential committee, and they were directed to dispose of the property of the district in such manner as they deemed would be for its best interests. The organization still exists and will probably be continued for a time, as a movement may be made toward its assuming maintenance of the library. For the present, however, it is practically defunct.

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH FIRE DISTRICT.

This district was organized October 14, 1871, on petition of J. D. Richards, F. G. Whitney, Simeon Bowen, Stephen Richardson, Charles E. Smith, H. F. Barrows, W. D. Whiting, O. M. Draper, Henry Rice, A. Coddington, Jr., and E. Ira Richards; and Thomas A. and Joseph G. Barden and John Stanley were also actively engaged in the enterprise. It comprised the territory included in School Districts No. 1 and No. 4 in that village. The fire department was organized a month later, on November 18, when a prudential committee and a board of engineers were elected. The former consisted of Samuel S. Ginnodo, Stephen Richardson, and Randolph Knapp, and the latter of John Stanley, chief engineer, and Charles E. Smith, Charles B. Carpenter, David D. Coddington, and Charles E. W. Sherman, assistants. Thomas A. Barden was the first clerk of the district.

Volunteers to form an engine company were called for, and the following are the names which were presented and approved: Foreman, Charles E. Smith; First Assistant Foreman, Theodore B. Hazzard; Second Assistant, Charles W. H. Day; Clerk and Treasurer, H. H. Evertson; Engineer, H. F. Briggs; Fireman, W. A. Bennett; Hosemen, T. W. Draper, E. B. Follett, C. S. Ballou, Benjamin H. Smith, J. Norman Hall, A. M. Sperry, Willard E. Hall, Thaddeus Terry, Edward R. Darling, George H. Spaulding, Albert J. Smith, William H. Smith, H. E. Thompson, George Becker, Osmond H. Atwood, W. P. Bennett, Joseph C. Bennett, A. O. Hall, H. W. Ferguson, Isaac B. Smith, Jacob A. Blackinton, W. H. Stanley, Charles B. Thompson, Willis J. Follett; thirty in all.

A similar call was made for a hook and ladder company, and the following volunteers were appointed its members: Foreman, William E. Clark; First Assistant, H. W. Caswell; Clerk and Treasurer, John A. Wollmer; Hook and Ladder men, Gardner Whiting, Timothy Collins, Henry McLearn, Hiram Packard, E. S. Brastow, H. H. Bennett, George Macker, Charles Bishop, A. W. Bowers, N. K. Bliss, Elmer Riley, Charles A. Somes, James Day, Jr., T. Mace, Crosdale Robinson, Arthur W. Read, George K. Gibbs; twenty in all.

These men were at first all volunteers, and all the apparatus was drawn by hand. In 1873

which, after trials, was adopted as the best. The engine was built by the South Attleboro Engine and Machine Works. Horse power was furnished by a horizontal steam boiler, 20 feet long, 3 feet 6 inches in diameter, with a 12-horse power cylinder 24 inches in diameter and 36 inches long. The boiler pressure is 100 pounds per square inch, and the cylinder pressure 120 pounds. The work of the engine is done by a 12-horse power cylinder 24 inches in diameter and 36 inches long, and the work of the cylinder is done by a 12-horse power cylinder 24 inches in diameter and 36 inches long.

Spring from 1961 and to the summer of 1962 (p. 106, November). The statement is that in 1961 the company "began work on construction of the new plant, which was then known as 'Project 1' (Project 1 was never completed)". Construction had by 1962 been completed, and, according to 1962 documents, work there was "being continued" as late as 1963 and that the "new plant" had "almost completed" its function.

[illegible][illegible]

During the past year there were several cases in the United States of the mumps, and not so long ago, during the present season. The epidemic of the mumps among the New York academy is still going on.

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

the property of their department to be in excellent condition, and they assured the people of the district that the water supply was "practically inexhaustible within the district, and not liable to pollution from any known source." The expenses for that year had been \$3,031.42 and the receipts \$6,470.65, showing a creditable balance upon the right side. The number of gallons of water pumped during the year was 35,592,361; the average number of gallons consumed per day about 97,511, and the average number of hours required for the pumping three and a fraction (seven minutes).

The officers of the entire district which, as in the East village, is called the "Fire District" were as follows in 1887: Water Commissioners, Sanford Hall, Anthony H. Bliss, Walter P. Whittemore; Superintendent of Water Works, Walter P. Whittemore; Clerk, C. A. Kenney; Treasurer, George W. Cheever; Chief Engineer of Fire Department, John B. Peck; First Assistant, T. W. Draper; Second Assistant, O. L. Swift; Prudential Committee, C. T. Guild, T. G. Sandland, J. H. Peckham.

THE UNION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT.

This district was organized September 6, 1875, and embraced the School Districts No. 1 and No. 4, North Attleborough. It had three purposes in view: namely, to improve the sidewalks within its limits, to light the streets, and to support a public library. The following-named gentlemen were actively engaged in the organization and early work: S. S. Ginnodo, F. G. Whitney, F. G. Pate, Joseph G. Barden, B. Porter, Jr., O. M. Draper, H. F. Barrows, Joseph E. Pond, Jr., John Stanley, E. K. Dunbar, Thomas A. Barden, D. D. Coddling, Charles E. Smith, and J. D. Richards.

On September 16, 1875, the district voted to accept the property of the North Attleborough Library Association and to become responsible for the maintenance of the library, and appropriated \$500 for that purpose. At the same time \$500 was appropriated for sidewalks and \$3,000 for street lighting and current and incidental expenses. From 1875 till 1884 the streets were lighted by kerosene and gasoline, but on April 14 of that year, on recommendation of the then prudential committee, it was voted to light the streets with gas and to contract therefor with the North Attleborough Gaslight Company. On April 12, 1886, electric lighting was adopted, and that method is continued by the town.¹

Following are the various officers of the district from the organization: Prudential Committee from 1875 to 1878, Felix G. Whitney, Samuel S. Ginnodo, Francis G. Pate; from 1878 to 1880, F. G. Whitney, S. S. Ginnodo, Charles E. Smith; for 1880-81, Charles E. Smith, C. S. Colbath, F. G. Pate; for 1881-82, C. E. Smith, C. S. Colbath, J. D. Richards; from 1882 to 1884, J. G. Barden, B. Porter, Jr., F. G. Pate; from 1884 to 1887, E. I. Franklin, H. M. Maxson, C. C. Peck; for 1887-88, C. E. Smith, O. M. Draper, H. M. Maxson; for 1888-89, C. C. Peck, H. M. Maxson, R. Donnell. The first clerk was Joseph E. Pond, Jr., who was in office from 1875 to 1885; the second F. I. Barden, from 1885 to 1889. The first treasurer was Joseph G. Barden, for 1875-76; the second, F. S. Draper, from 1876 to 1884; the third, W. W. Sherman, from 1884 to 1886; the fourth, J. H. Peckham, from 1886 to 1889.

The town having assumed all its duties the Improvement District is practically abolished. The only matters connected with it now requiring adjustment are financial, there being a debt upon the organization. It was hoped that at its annual meeting for 1889 the town would vote to assume this debt and thus bring all the district's affairs to a final close; but this was not accomplished and therefore a continuance of officers was necessary. Those for the preceding year were re-elected. The two improvement districts of the old town are therefore in similar condition — well officered but almost dutiless, and to all intents and purposes extinct.²

¹ It still has been reported that North Attleborough, Stoughton, and Taunton have agreed to build the town-owned and to have a public supply of water. During the summer of 1890 the town of North Attleborough voted to build a water supply for the town, and in 1891 it was agreed that the town of Stoughton should build a water supply for the town.

² The latter decision of the town of North Attleborough to build a water supply for the town, and the decision of the town of Stoughton to build a water supply for the town, and the decision of the town of Taunton to build a water supply for the town, are all in the same direction, and it is probable that the town of North Attleborough will build a water supply for the town, and the town of Stoughton will build a water supply for the town, and the town of Taunton will build a water supply for the town.

eight at St. Mary's Cemetery, and three at Briggsville. In the two last-named yards are the unknown graves.

Up to 1887 there had been a total membership in this Post of two hundred and thirty-five, and at that time there were "120 comrades in good standing." The first death of a comrade of the Post was that of R. H. Lee, in June, 1872, and the last previous to the above-named year that of Gideon M. Horton, in December, 1886. Previous to this date the sum of \$2,277 had been expended in charity.

Following are the names of the Past Commanders of this Post: D. H. Smith, E. S. Horton, E. C. Martin, A. T. Wales, W. H. Wade, W. H. Goff, W. J. Thompson, Edwin J. Horton, M. O. Wheaton, E. W. Rhodes, F. L. Le Baron, T. K. Gay, George L. Jillson, E. D. Guild. E. S. Horton served as commander for three years. The officers for 1887 were as follows: Commander, Emmons D. Guild; S. V. C., Loring Cole; J. V. C., Charles L. Fuller; Adjutant, R. G. Bell; Quartermaster, Mark O. Wheaton; Chaplain, D. E. Adams; Surgeon, E. R. Read; O. of D., G. A. Taylor; O. of G., G. H. Alfred; Sergeant-Major, E. S. Horton; Quartermaster Sergeant, G. R. Adams; Delegates to Department Convention, E. S. Horton, R. J. Bell; Alternates, E. C. Martin, A. T. Wales.

The Fourth of July, 1872, was celebrated here after the real New England fashion with a clam-bake, etc. In this always pleasant festival to true "sons of the soil," William A. Streeter Post had an important share. The celebration took place in Peck's grove, and was made the occasion for the presentation to the "Grand Army" of a beautiful State flag, which had been purchased for them by the ladies of the East village. A group of young ladies, wearing the patriotic colors, bore the banner, and one of them voicing doubtless the thoughts and feelings of all the loyal women there, presented the flag to the Post with these words:—

"Members of the William A. Streeter Division of the Grand Army of the Republic,

"Eleven years ago, when the booming of the first rebel gun sounded the thrilling call—to arms, Massachusetts nobly responded with regiment after regiment of her sons, and, as she sent them forth, she placed in the hands of each, with the country's flag, her own banner, that together they might lead her brave boys on to battle for the right.

"I need not recount to you who shared in them, the toils and dangers, or the triumphs of the war, but those banners came back with shattered staves, pierced by bullets, and bathed in blood, to tell the story of the dreadful conflict, and they shall be preserved in our State Capitol as her richest treasure, with the other memorials of Massachusetts bravery.

"War no longer desolates our land. Peace and prosperity reign within her borders; and thanks be to Him whose strong right arm hath gotten us the victory, we are once more a free, united people, and today, when we are met to celebrate this welcome anniversary of our national independence, we bring to you another banner. Yet, glorious as was the history of those war flags, we cannot ask for this a similar fate, for we do not forget that many of our best beloved, who went forth to the contest full of manly strength and ardor, fell beneath their folds, and returned to us cold and lifeless forms, or lie buried beneath the soil of some distant Southern plain.

"All honor to our martyred heroes; bravely they fought, nobly they fell.

• O for the death of those

Who for their country die,

Sink on her bosom to repose,

And triumph where they lie."

"On this our greatest national holiday, greeted from the Atlantic to the Pacific, with ringing of bells, booming of cannon, and joyous acclamations, and, in the words of an ardent patriot of our own Massachusetts, uttered on the very day of the Declaration, 'celebrated with thanksgiving, with festivity, with bonfires, and illuminations,' mid sounds of martial music, and the tramp of marching feet, this banner comes as a fitting reminder of those scenes which you as soldiers witnessed together, and we offer it as a partial expression of our gratitude for your patriotic services in the field.

"We trust it may never wave over more warlike scenes than we see around us today; but, if ever again hostile force molest, or fratricidal hand be raised against the land we love, voices

[illegible]

On examining the second and third data points, both the increasing trend of Γ and the decreasing trend of β are observed. On the contrary, for $\Gamma = 1$ and $\beta = 0$, the trend of Γ is decreasing and the trend of β is increasing. In the present work, the increasing trend of Γ and the decreasing trend of β are observed in the first data point, as the value of Γ is 0.9999 and β is 0.0001.

Q. 11. The following are the results of a survey of 100 students in a school. The students were asked to state their favourite sport. The results are as follows:

1. *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, 49 (1981), 1, 107-127.

• *Journal of Management Education* 32(10):1039-1050

11. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1997; 277: 1039-1041.

1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1997; 278: 1023-1028.

100

¹ *Q* = quantity of output; *L* = labour; *K* = capital; *Y* = output; *Y*₀ = output at time 0; *Y*₁ = output at time 1; *Y*₂ = output at time 2; *Y*₃ = output at time 3; *Y*₄ = output at time 4; *Y*₅ = output at time 5; *Y*₆ = output at time 6; *Y*₇ = output at time 7; *Y*₈ = output at time 8; *Y*₉ = output at time 9; *Y*₁₀ = output at time 10; *Y*₁₁ = output at time 11; *Y*₁₂ = output at time 12; *Y*₁₃ = output at time 13; *Y*₁₄ = output at time 14; *Y*₁₅ = output at time 15; *Y*₁₆ = output at time 16; *Y*₁₇ = output at time 17; *Y*₁₈ = output at time 18; *Y*₁₉ = output at time 19; *Y*₂₀ = output at time 20; *Y*₂₁ = output at time 21; *Y*₂₂ = output at time 22; *Y*₂₃ = output at time 23; *Y*₂₄ = output at time 24; *Y*₂₅ = output at time 25; *Y*₂₆ = output at time 26; *Y*₂₇ = output at time 27; *Y*₂₈ = output at time 28; *Y*₂₉ = output at time 29; *Y*₃₀ = output at time 30; *Y*₃₁ = output at time 31; *Y*₃₂ = output at time 32; *Y*₃₃ = output at time 33; *Y*₃₄ = output at time 34; *Y*₃₅ = output at time 35; *Y*₃₆ = output at time 36; *Y*₃₇ = output at time 37; *Y*₃₈ = output at time 38; *Y*₃₉ = output at time 39; *Y*₄₀ = output at time 40; *Y*₄₁ = output at time 41; *Y*₄₂ = output at time 42; *Y*₄₃ = output at time 43; *Y*₄₄ = output at time 44; *Y*₄₅ = output at time 45; *Y*₄₆ = output at time 46; *Y*₄₇ = output at time 47; *Y*₄₈ = output at time 48; *Y*₄₉ = output at time 49; *Y*₅₀ = output at time 50; *Y*₅₁ = output at time 51; *Y*₅₂ = output at time 52; *Y*₅₃ = output at time 53; *Y*₅₄ = output at time 54; *Y*₅₅ = output at time 55; *Y*₅₆ = output at time 56; *Y*₅₇ = output at time 57; *Y*₅₈ = output at time 58; *Y*₅₉ = output at time 59; *Y*₆₀ = output at time 60; *Y*₆₁ = output at time 61; *Y*₆₂ = output at time 62; *Y*₆₃ = output at time 63; *Y*₆₄ = output at time 64; *Y*₆₅ = output at time 65; *Y*₆₆ = output at time 66; *Y*₆₇ = output at time 67; *Y*₆₈ = output at time 68; *Y*₆₉ = output at time 69; *Y*₇₀ = output at time 70; *Y*₇₁ = output at time 71; *Y*₇₂ = output at time 72; *Y*₇₃ = output at time 73; *Y*₇₄ = output at time 74; *Y*₇₅ = output at time 75; *Y*₇₆ = output at time 76; *Y*₇₇ = output at time 77; *Y*₇₈ = output at time 78; *Y*₇₉ = output at time 79; *Y*₈₀ = output at time 80; *Y*₈₁ = output at time 81; *Y*₈₂ = output at time 82; *Y*₈₃ = output at time 83; *Y*₈₄ = output at time 84; *Y*₈₅ = output at time 85; *Y*₈₆ = output at time 86; *Y*₈₇ = output at time 87; *Y*₈₈ = output at time 88; *Y*₈₉ = output at time 89; *Y*₉₀ = output at time 90; *Y*₉₁ = output at time 91; *Y*₉₂ = output at time 92; *Y*₉₃ = output at time 93; *Y*₉₄ = output at time 94; *Y*₉₅ = output at time 95; *Y*₉₆ = output at time 96; *Y*₉₇ = output at time 97; *Y*₉₈ = output at time 98; *Y*₉₉ = output at time 99; *Y*₁₀₀ = output at time 100; *Y*₁₀₁ = output at time 101; *Y*₁₀₂ = output at time 102; *Y*₁₀₃ = output at time 103; *Y*₁₀₄ = output at time 104; *Y*₁₀₅ = output at time 105; *Y*₁₀₆ = output at time 106; *Y*₁₀₇ = output at time 107; *Y*₁₀₈ = output at time 108; *Y*₁₀₉ = output at time 109; *Y*₁₁₀ = output at time 110; 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The authors reported on the study and parents' satisfaction about assessment for girls and young boys' level of anxiety symptoms. We were particularly struck by our findings about the utility of these 20-item questions.

¹ During early 1970s, the first King's road development, originally for commercial purposes, of the New Town project, was an 800 ft. frontage 1/4 mile long. It was intended to be constructed in five stages. It is planned that the future stages comprising existing Old George's and adjacent parcels be financed by local business interests, although it could be the benefit of the community, since the development would have a major impact on the economy.

As stated, average level level earnings are shown, as changes between two years, instead. The assumption underlying this use of differences between two consecutive years is that the change in the level of earnings is the same as the change in the growth rate of earnings. This is not true, but it is a reasonable approximation. The following discussion of the growth rate of earnings is based on the assumption that the growth rate of earnings is the same as the change in the level of earnings. This is not true, but it is a reasonable approximation. The following discussion of the growth rate of earnings is based on the assumption that the growth rate of earnings is the same as the change in the level of earnings. This is not true, but it is a reasonable approximation.

College and University Libraries

[illegible]

18. *See* *Id.* at 1000-01 (discussing the importance of the "public interest" in the context of the "public interest" test).

[illegible]

unnoticed, and I, in behalf of W. A. Streeter corps, assisted by their lady friends of Attleboro', present to you this flag, and may the record of this post ever be as pure as the color of this emblem."

Commander Guild accepted the gift in the following happy manner:—

"*Mrs. President, Ladies of the Relief Corps, and Friends:*

"The pleasant duty devolves upon me as commander of this post, to receive from your hands this beautiful banner, its white folds emblematical of the peace which now pervades our once distracted country, its strong arm and firmly grasped sword bearing witness to the means by which that peace was secured. We come together to-night under its peaceful folds, you, the mothers, wives and daughters, we, the fathers, husbands and sons, not to recall the bitterness of the past, but its most cherished memories, of when you with willing hands and loyal hearts buckled on our armor and bade us God speed, in the work that was before us. For this you have our country's thanks. For what you have been to us since, so truly an aid and relief corps, you have our sincere thanks, and it needed no token of remembrance to keep alive our interest in your organization; nevertheless, we shall cherish and protect it, as we did the flag of our country, with even nearer and dearer ties to bind us to it. And now in behalf of William A. Streeter Post, allow me to extend to your our most heartfelt thanks."

Still another gift to the Post deserves mention. On the evening of November 3, 1886, by invitation, the members met with the Women's Relief Corps in the Grand Army Hall. The president spoke a few words of greeting and welcome to the guests, and then presented to them another member of the Corps, who very prettily expressed the interest of the Corps in the Grand Army, and of the appreciation of its members of the favor and kindness shown to them by the Post; then as a proof of their sincerity requesting the Post to accept an offering more material and substantial than words. This was an altar, consisting of a plush-covered table resting on four brass cannon, the lower connecting shelf containing a pile of cannonballs.

For once Attleborough soldiers were taken completely by surprise; but Commander Guild, like an able general, began at once to rally at least his mental forces, in order to make the best defence possible. He found himself, however, entirely surrounded by the smilingly victorious enemy, and wholly at their mercy, with no alternative but to accept the situation—and the gift. This he finally did, with becoming courage and in proper soldierly fashion, on behalf of himself and his comrades. With a few well-chosen words he gracefully capitulated to his fair foe, apparently well content with their terms of unconditional surrender on the part of the Post to the pleasures of a social evening.

The Grand Army "quarters" are quite commodious and very comfortably furnished, and the large hall contains a goodly number of interesting relics of the war. Upon the walls, among the other flags, hang two famous guidons, the one carried by Lemuel Gay, and by him secreted during his days of captivity in the prisons of the South, and brought home with him on his return, and the other brought back by Major Horton, from the same regiment, the Fifty-eighth Massachusetts Volunteers. This regiment started for the field with six guidons, two red, two blue, and two white ones, presented to it by New Bedford. After the services in the field were ended it was found that but two of these guidons were left, and the colonel of the regiment proposed to keep them as souvenirs of the Fifty-eighth's experiences. Major Horton took the liberty of differing with his commanding officer upon that point, and decided that the two had better be separated, little dreaming that the one placed in Mr. Gay's care would ever be brought back. Upon one occasion, therefore, in the colonel's absence, one disappeared, and he never found it again. "All's fair in love and war," and so the Attleborough Grand Army is the fortunate possessor of more than double a company's share of these guidons of the Fifty-eighth.

Among the relics carefully preserved are various pieces of Southern scrip, and a Bible picked up near Petersburg, Va., by Major Horton; two canes made from stockades, the one from Andersonville, the other from Libby prison; some pipes whose owners—Charles William H. Harley and Charles William Upham of the Fifty-eighth—were shot with them in their pockets; and two briarwood pipes made in prison, in one of which Major Horton secreted money. He had thirty-five dollars in greenbacks when he was captured, and he managed to smuggle them into prison with him, and to preserve them intact. The pipes were white, and the Andersonville

Richmond Holley,
 Castle Thunder, Belle Isle,
 12 weeks.
 Jubiel Jordan,
 Danville, Libby,
 4 months.
 Died at Andersonville,
 Attleborough soldiers,
 George P. Johnson, George H. Norton,
 A. Baylies Cummings.

The purposes of the G. A. R. are too familiar to every one to need either explanation or comment, but if the ceremonies of Memorial Day were the beginning and the end of its work, and it had no other, nothing better could have been projected as the basis of an organization. No better motto could be devised than the one used by the order regarding each of its dead:—

“For what he was and all he dared,
 Remember him to-day.”

William A. Streeter Post has always been faithful in the discharge of its Soldiers' Day duties, and the public services are always well arranged and interesting.

The following “Memorial Hymn” was written for one of these occasions some years since by “our town poet,” whose pen was never idle in those dark days, when words of hope and patriotic cheer were so often and so sorely needed, and whose time and talents are freely given to advance every good cause:—

“May, with fragrant offering,
 Dewy with the touch of Spring,
 Wakens memories sad and sweet
 Of the lives so brave and fleet.
 Heroes, in the war they stood,
 Battling for the nation's good,
 Crown them with immortal fame,
 Blend in song each honored name.
 Grateful thanks with tears are shed
 On the living and the dead;
 Children's voices chant the lay
 Sacred to Memorial Day.
 Mother earth, upon thy breast,
 Fold thy mantle where they rest,
 We will trust Eternal power,
 To revive each mortal flower.”

“They fought to give us peace, and lo!
 They gained a better peace than ours.”

We of the North thus carefully year by year place our votive offerings over the forms of those buried among us, but there are many from the “ranks of our dead” lying on far Southern plains or in distant, quiet churchyards whom we cannot reach with our fragrant garlands; still these are not all forgotten, for it is said that when they of the South year after year like ourselves decorate the graves of their own soldiers they generously scatter sweet blossoms over friend and foe alike.

Nothing could prove more conclusively that the bitter animosities and burning hatreds naturally engendered by the causes which led to and carried on the war are fast dying out than this simple fact—a fact quite properly referred to here. One stanza of a beautiful poem which was written to commemorate the first of the general decorative ceremonies by women of the South so aptly describes the feeling pervading the land at this the end of a quarter-

century since the close of the war that it seems fitting to quote it as the most appropriate brief picture to be made of an organization whose very name evokes of necessity some of the fiercest days of battle and death—1861—

"No more shall the weary woe
Of the battlefield (you heard)
Their agonies our nation know
When they heard the drums of our dead!
Tearing the soil and the sky,
Waiting the judgment day,
Look on (look on) the Boy,
Forts and lives for the Gray."

SIGNS OF WEARINESS.

The first organizational notice this name was at Pittsburgh, Pa., in 1881, to Miss A. F. Davis, and with the following members, now—

Sec. 1. To accept on the members of our Fathers, and their sacrifices for the happy name of the Union.

Sec. 2. To add the members of the Grand Army of the Republic, the widows and their families and disabled Veterans, to extend aid and protection to their widows and orphans, to perpetuate the memory and history of their heroic deed, and the proper observance of Memorial Day.

Sec. 3. To visit and assist worthy and needy members of our Order.

Sec. 4. To promote patriotism and love of country, not only among our membership, but among all the people of our state, and to spread and sustain the doctrine of equal rights (colored men) and justice to all.

The camp in our town organized April 30, 1884, with the following officers: Captain, C. Adin Smith; First Lieutenant, O. W. Hawkins; Second Lieutenant, E. H. Dyer; Chaplain, George Thomas (deceased); Sergeant, W. H. Stricker; Quartermaster, Sergeant, E. A. Weiss; Camp Sergeant, C. H. Meyers; Sergeant of the Guard, J. A. Thayer; Corporal of the Guard, L. A. Weiss; Privates—Messengers, E. L. Johnson; Camp Guard, L. B. Krumm; First Guard, J. F. Woodman. A number of worthy members were present, which had increased in 1887 to thirty-one, of which then the following named were the officers: Captain, H. E. Wough; First Lieutenant, G. C. Phipps; Second Lieutenant, G. A. Thomas; Chaplain, O. F. Nelson; Quartermaster, Sergeant, J. E. Wadsworth; Company Sergeant, C. H. Hartman; Color Sergeant, W. Garwell; Sergeant of the Guard, A. F. Giam; Camp Guard, H. E. Blykes; Messengers, W. H. Weiss; Privates, G. W. Young.

At the same time, it is very probable and very interesting, amount of interest was manifested in this organization, but at present it is very much on the wane. So desolate is this the case that there are evident signs of disbandment at no very distant day; but we trust the sons of our old soldiers will not suffer such a course to be pursued. We ought to remember mothers and our children and children's children through the ages in some manner to remember ourselves, when their fathers did in the great war for the Union by perpetuating movement on a permanent basis the memory of Memorial Day.

THE WOMEN'S GUILD ORGAN.

This organization was formed September 4, 1884, with twenty-four members. Two years since having this name are the members of similar societies formed during the year for the reason and result of our mothers in active service, and now there was in the past, it is believed, by many mothers and their families, though their remembrance with their good friends.

The members of this day of interest, certainly, and the organization seems strong. At one time, however, there was much interest and many members, though we are not without some interest again. In the past, it was a great society, and a new house at the same time. There were in that great many members, and the interest is still maintained. 1884. — General movement.

features of a social nature. Charters are granted to the minor societies by the National Women's Relief Corps.

The first officers of the corps here were: President, Mrs. Lucy C. Martin; Senior Vice-President, Mrs. Lizzie C. Thompson; Junior Vice-President, Mrs. Ellen Fuller; Secretary, Mrs. Isabel Mowton; Treasurer, Mrs. Abby Thompson; Chaplain, Mrs. Sarah E. Cole; Conductor, Mrs. Evelyn Fogg; Guard, Mrs. Fanny Rhodes.

There is a membership fee attached to this organization and a yearly tax of two dollars, payable quarterly; and whenever it becomes necessary money is raised by entertainments of various kinds. During the past year and a half \$150 has been raised, and since the formation of the corps fully \$200. There is a general fund and a relief fund, with a special relief committee to ascertain needs and present the same to the entire body for its consideration and action. The ladies of this society attend both to their own special charity work and that of the Grand Army Post. During the past winter, that of 1886-87, very little charity work was required — proof positive of the healthful prosperity of the members of the Post.

The officers for 1887 were as follows: President, Mrs. Emma Adams; Senior Vice-President, Mrs. Ellen Fuller; Junior Vice-President, Mrs. Myra Makepeace; Secretary, Mrs. Abby A. Smith; Treasurer, Mrs. Emily Luther; Chaplain, Mrs. Margaret Hawkins; Conductor, Mrs. Sarah E. Hall; Guard, Miss Emma Larrabee.

PRENTISS M. WHITING POST, NO. 192, GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

This Post antedates by about two years the William A. Streeter Post, since, as nearly as can be ascertained, it was organized in 1869, and its first charter bore the number "133." Its membership reached one hundred, and it was for some time in a very prosperous condition. Its chief work in the early days was a charitable one, "in relieving the widows and families of soldiers." There appear to have been some twelve commanders: the first, S. H. Bugbee, and his successors, Mr. Bernard, Mr. Loughlin, Dr. O. C. Turner, W. H. Goodhue, Thomas Curraïn (now deceased), Thomas Sandland (who was the first adjutant), E. D. Sturtevant, W. W. Fisher, B. F. Lincoln, B. T. Bronson, and J. N. Hall. The prosperity of the Post continued unabated for six or seven years, but about 1875 dissensions began to make themselves manifest, and they were finally the means of entirely breaking up the organization. These dissensions were the result of discussions upon "parliamentary usage and rules," which have been characterized as "red hot." Their effect upon the life of the Post was disastrous: interest waned, numbers dwindled to about one half apparently, — fifty-seven, — and at length the charter was returned to the authorities who issued it. Many of the members subsequently joined the William A. Streeter Post and others probably the George H. Maintien Post in Plainville after its formation in 1882.

After the division of the town the citizens of the new town of North Attleborough promised substantial aid financially to Grand Army men there, and especially to those who had been members of this organization, if they would form a new Post and take up the old charter. This latter it was found could not be done, as the old charter had been given to the Plainville Post; but a new Post was formed under the old name, and a new charter and number were obtained. This organization was effected July 15, 1888, and the good work was accomplished largely, it is said, through the efforts of Department Commander Walker. Again S. H. Bugbee became the first commander, and he retained the office through the two succeeding years. The adjutant during those years was R. J. Bell, and he still retains the office. The second beginning seems to have been auspicious, and the existence of the Post thus far both prosperous and encouraging. In its existence of a little more than two years there have been but four deaths among the members, and but four other losses in number, two from resignation and two from change of residence. Those who died were Dr. F. L. Burden, C. E. Burgess, B. F. Evans, and William L. Kilkenny, and one of those who left town was Charles Taylor, who was transferred to the Soldiers' Home at Wickford, R. I. There are now eighty-five active members.

There are two auxiliaries connected with this post — the J. N. Corse Sons of Veterans Camp, No. 57, with a membership of fifty, and the Women's Relief Corps, No. 117, with a membership of one hundred and forty. The ladies of this organization accomplish a large amount of

good work among the families of soldiers, many of whom would perhaps otherwise be forgotten upon the battle-field.

The officers in the field for 1861 were as follows: Commander, C. T. Gould; Senior Vice-Commander, G. L. Smith; Junior Vice-Commander, Thomas G. Sandland; Quartermaster, W. C. Williamson; Chaplain, F. H. Crockett; Officers of the Day, J. W. Dwyer; Officers of the Guard, James E. Wadsworth. The headquarters of the Company in England at Peckham Hall, in Lambeth Road. The place was used as temporary and intermediate depot in January of 1862. Following is a list of the members of the present year, 1862.

S. H. Parsons,	C. W. Fisher,	Stephen Stanley,
C. T. Gould,	W. W. Fisher,	C. C. Plumb,
W. C. Williamson,	A. Gooden,	J. F. Whitting,
G. L. Smith,	J. Norman Hall,	T. W. Johnson,
A. R. Block,	J. G. Hunt,	George F. Cassatt,
E. L. A. Smith,	H. E. Thacker,	Julius I. Bosworth,
Robert H. Bennett,	Charles F. May,	John C. Apple,
A. T. B. Smith,	George F. Smith,	Frank C. Smith,
J. E. Crockett,	Joseph Smith,	W. B. Campbell,
Harvey Crockett,	R. J. Bell,	Henry W. Dwyer,
Charles W. H. Dwyer,	Ernest L. Stevenson,	Thomas F. Flynn,
Frederick B. Gould,	Stephen Ballou,	Thomas G. Sandland,
F. A. Gould,	Augustus B. Hayes,	T. M. Smith,
Charles H. Gould,	J. S. Smith,	David R. Jones,
E. F. H. Gould,	Frederick Stafford,	William Smith,
J. F. H. Gould,	Arthur W. Wilkinson,	W. Burnett,
John H. H. Gould,	W. H. Bond,	B. F. Brown,
E. D. H. Gould,	James N. Woodhouse,	Walter Eaton,
Harvey G. S. Smith,	Harvey Clap,	Asa M. Brownell,
E. H. Tappan,	Albert L. Whitson,	John W. W. W.
Samuel Tappan,	Patrick A. Kewlin,	Charles B. Wood,
Frank H. Tisdale,	Francis M. Smith,	Michael M. Gould,
James W. Wadsworth,	Medford Smith,	John Dwyer,
George W. Wadsworth,	Thomas C. Perkins,	Robert Dwyer,
T. S. Wadsworth,	Winfield S. Thompson,	Thomas H. Flynn,
John E. Wadsworth,	Thomas G. Wadsworth,	Edward Rolfe,
George H. Wadsworth,	Asa M. Wadsworth,	William F. Wadsworth,
Charles H. Wadsworth,	W. L. Wadsworth,	Frederick H. Wadsworth,
	Anthony M. Wadsworth,	

NON-STAFFED

The first newspaper to come into existence in the State, published at North Andover, was the *North Andover Advertiser*. It was first published in 1811, and was the first of the kind in the State. It was first published at North Andover, and was the first of the kind in the State. It was first published at North Andover, and was the first of the kind in the State.

THE JOURNAL OF THE JOURNAL

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nity it represents as buds to the apple tree. Attleborough offers no exception to this law of social and material evolution.

"Following close upon the opening of the Attleborough Branch railroad, and like that enterprise a resultant of the business prosperity that followed the war, came the *ATTLEBOROUGH CHRONICLE*. It was the first paper whose form and method, as well as time of appearing, gave any hope of permanence or prosperity. In a History of Attleborough it deserves fitting representation, because its own service to the cause of local history, in catching and holding by the 'art preservative' the events of recent years, has been of the greatest value.

"In November 1871 the idea occurred to Mr. Walter Phillips,¹ who was then employed on a Providence paper, to start a journal of his own, and his attention and choice were naturally directed to Attleborough, the birthplace of his wife,² and a large and growing municipality. The latter part of December of that year, Mr. Phillips began a personal canvass of the town, which was continued by himself and others until the first of February 1872, when \$1,900 had been paid in advance subscriptions. The first paper was issued February 3rd 1872, the type being set in a little office near Ryder's Hotel, now Park Street Hotel, Attleboro', and the forms were sent to Providence and printed by the Providence Press Company. Pressure of advertising made it necessary to enlarge as early as May of that year.

"On the completion of Kendall's Block, in North Attleboro', the enlarged paper was moved into the rooms in that building now occupied by the engraving office of Lincoln & Ballou and the Union Improvement District Library. A Washington Ward press was added, and upon it Edward Quinn, foreman of the office, 'worked' the forms. July 20th Mr. Quinn also became local editor, and in August the journalistic force was further augmented by the employment of Mr. Eugene K. Dunbar, who came to the work with the collegiate honors of Brown University freshly upon him. August 24th the firm became Phillips & Dunbar. January 18th 1873, Mr. Phillips sold the paper, with the job office connected, to Messrs. Dunbar & Quinn for \$5,000. All the printing material had been paid for from the earnings of the first year. July 1st of that year — 1873 — E. K. Dunbar became sole editor and proprietor, and so continued for nearly four years. During all this period he was assisted by Mr. Eliot Hunt as local editor and representative of the paper in the village of Attleboro'. To Mr. Hunt's able and conscientious work much of the success of the paper was owing.

"March 3rd 1877, Mr. Dunbar sold the paper to Mr. F. B. Greene of Providence, son of Prof. Greene of Brown University, Eliot Hunt of Attleboro', and Edwin A. Codding of North Attleboro'. The new firm organized as F. B. Greene & Co., Mr. Greene owning a half, and each of his partners a quarter, interest. Two years later, March 1st 1879, Mr. Hunt purchased the interest of Mr. Greene, and the firm became Eliot Hunt & Co. The business prospered, but at the expense of the health of the senior proprietor, who found it necessary in the spring of 1881 to call editorial assistance. He procured the services of Mr. Edgar Perry, like Mr. Dunbar and Mr. Greene, a graduate of Brown University. Mr. Perry began his duties March 8th 1881, and a year later was formally given sole charge of its editorial and news columns.

"In November, 1881, the *CHRONICLE* moved into its present convenient and commodious rooms in Anawan Block. December 1st 1882 its form was changed from an eight-column folio to a six-column quarto, printed on tinted paper, and cut and pasted.

"Mr. Hunt's journeys in quest of health proved unsuccessful, and on Sunday morning September 8th 1883, he passed peacefully to rest at his residence in Attleboro'. Mr. Hunt's administrators sold his three fourths interest in the paper, December 8th 1883, to Edgar Perry, who in turn sold a quarter to Mr. William H. Barnes, a former foreman of the office, a newspaper man of experience and at that time proprietor of a job printing office in Odd Fellows Building. The two businesses were consolidated, and the firm organized January 1st 1884, as Perry, Barnes & Co., Mr. Edwin A. Codding still retaining his quarter interest in the concern. April 1st 1884, the *CHRONICLE* was changed to a semi-weekly, a four-page edition being published every Tuesday. July 13th 1886, Mr. Barnes purchased the interest of Mr. Codding, and became equal partner with Mr. Perry, the firm taking its present style, Perry & Barnes.

¹ Now general manager of the United Press. ² Miss Francena Capron, daughter of the late Virgil Capron.

by the partner and brother, Mr. N. J. Sweet. Since then additional space has been taken and the facilities for all kinds of printing have been increased, with the result of a decided growth in the business. The enterprise and energy displayed by these latest partners have reaped an abundant reward in the way of present success and of encouraging promise for the future. The *ADVOCATE* is popular and has a very large circulation for a town paper. Attleborough may, we think, safely challenge comparison with almost any town in regard to her two newspaper publications, both in character and appearance.¹

ATTLEBOROUGH BRANCH RAILROAD.

For many years previous and up to 1869-70, the only public mode of conveyance between the North and East villages was by a line of stages. These met certain trains only in the latter village, and year by year were proving to be more and more inadequate to the demands made upon them by the two villages and the interlying portions of the town. The necessity for more frequent and rapid communication in this direction had therefore come to be a widely acknowledged fact. About the beginning of the year 1870, at his request, several gentlemen met at the residence of Handel N. Daggett at the Falls village, to consult upon a plan for starting a railroad and to arrange for taking the initial steps in the enterprise. This meeting was, so far as known, the real beginning of the Branch Road.

The plan matured proved to be an admirable one and it was promptly and ably executed, for in less than a year from the above date the road was completed and in running order. A petition was drawn up, which was signed by Handel N. Daggett, Henry F. Barrows, and Stephen Richardson, who were made the incorporators, and presented to the Legislature. This provided for the corporators permission to build the road to unite with the Boston and Providence Railroad and the Taunton Branch Railroad at their junction in Attleborough, with power to lease the same. The capital stock was not to exceed \$100,000 and shares were to be \$100 each. This petition passed the House March 12, 1870, and the Senate on the 14th, being approved on the 19th of the same month.

The first meeting called by the corporation was held in Mr. Rice's office at North Attleborough on May 14, 1870. Besides the above-named petitioners there were present Dr. J. R. Bronson, J. H. Sturdy, and A. M. Ide. The charter and by-laws were accepted at an adjourned meeting held later in the same day. On June 1 H. F. Barrows was elected president, J. R. Bronson, clerk, and H. N. Daggett, treasurer. The first directors were H. F. Barrows, H. N. Daggett, J. R. Bronson, Stephen Richardson, and A. A. Folsom. On July 29 it was voted to contract with E. G. Perkins and John Lynch to construct the road for \$40,000, and it was to be completed by the first of November following. This contract was carried out in the usual way, with some extra charges. In 1871 power was granted to increase the capital to \$130,000 and the road was leased to the Boston and Providence Railroad for a term of thirty years from December 31, 1871.

The officers of the first election have continued in their respective positions to the present time, 1887, and there has been but one change in the board of directors, O. M. Draper having been elected in the place of Stephen Richardson, deceased. The stock is held almost entirely in town and by about thirty-five persons, these being chiefly residents of North Attleborough. The road is in good running condition and prosperous financially. The stock has increased fully fifty per cent. in value and therefore pays large dividends on its par value. [The road

¹ Mr. Randall retired from the paper about August, 1888, and in January following Mr. Mowton again took the editorship. Soon after the departure of Mr. Sweet, Mr. William A. Sturdy, of Chertley, entered the business and in November, 1888, the firm of Sweet & Sturdy was formed. The following year it was decided to establish a daily paper, and the first issue of the same bears the date of September 3, 1889, under the name of the *ATTLEBOROUGH DAILY SUN*. There were 306 publications during the first year, with an average daily number of 2,205. Various "popularity contests" were started, and were one of the means of maintaining a large daily average for quite a period.

The firm of Sweet & Sturdy dissolved partnership July 1, 1891, Mr. Sweet leaving town at that time. For two months the business was conducted under the name of William A. Sturdy, but at that time, September 1, 1891, Mr. Mowton took control. The business has passed into other hands, and early in 1894 Mr. Mowton left town to take a position on a newspaper in Brockton, this State.

J. H. Lewis,	H. C. Luther,	F. L. Morse,
W. T. Mason,	Eugene Martin,	R. D. Manchester,
Samuel McCartney,	T. T. McAdams,	G. C. Parker,
A. W. Parmenter,	G. A. Pierce,	H. R. Packard,
G. F. Power,	O. P. Richardson,	A. M. Richards,
C. F. Rhodes,	C. E. Richards,	C. A. Richardson,
C. H. Swift,	G. E. Snow,	G. H. Sykes,
C. A. Sturdy,	David Smiley,	F. E. Smith,
F. E. Tripp,	E. A. Taylor,	J. F. Woodward,
D. E. Wilmarth,	G. O. Wilmarth,	M. L. Wood,
	E. F. Young,	

On February 27, 1888, the following were added to the above number by being mustered in:—

F. E. Allen,	O. P. Bliss,	J. E. Pagnoy,
F. C. Power,	I. W. Smith,	George White.

The first commissioned officers were:—

Captain, William H. Goff.
 First Lieutenant, George A. Adams.
 Second Lieutenant, O. P. Richardson, Jr.

The first non-commissioned officers appointed by the captain were:—

First Sergeant, Fred. L. Morse,	Corporals,
Second Sergeant, Herbert A. Clark,	Frank E. Keeler,
Third Sergeant, Thomas K. Gay,	George H. Sykes,
Fourth Sergeant, D. E. Wilmarth,	Amos S. Blackinton,
Fifth Sergeant, Clarence E. Richards,	Charles A. Sturdy.

At its first inspection Company I took the highest place, and has stood Number 1 ever since, maintaining the same high standard in all respects and everywhere. Its record in camp has been wellnigh perfect, and it has "never had a man in the guard house." The Fifth Regiment attended the celebration in New York attendant upon the one hundredth anniversary of the inaugural of Washington, and was the recipient of very high compliments from the City of New York. This regiment presented the appearance of regulars and was the "only regiment in the U. S. that marched 24 file front." At the Cotton Centennial celebration in Pawtucket in the autumn of 1890, to which Company I was specially invited, it was the only company in the procession which marched with the "file front of regulars," and with every eye looking straight ahead. Much praise has been bestowed upon this company, and justly, for the men have labored diligently to acquire the military knowledge and technique necessary to place them where they desired to be—in the front ranks of militia companies. The "drill squad" deserves special praise for its attainments in the line of what, for want perhaps of the proper military term, we must call fancy drilling. In the intricate and artistic movements involved in this style of drill the men seem to have reached almost perfection.

A high compliment was bestowed upon Company I, and through it upon the town, by the order which directed that the regimental "Field Day" manoeuvres for 1890 should be conducted here. Under the orders issued it was impossible for the citizens of the town to offer the regiment any entertainment in the way of a collation, but what could be done by them was done. A large number offered themselves as soldiers for the day to "act on the defensive." The threatening weather of the eighth of October prevented many from presenting themselves at the appointed rendezvous, but the well-planned defence was carried out nevertheless by the small number who were actively engaged under the command of Major Horton. The attack was directed by Colonel Bancroft and the result was a foregone conclusion, as of course the town had to be taken, but it was some hours before the regiment was victorious. The fighting was in the vicinity of Dodgeville, chiefly to the east of that village, and the limit of the battle was Maple Street; when the regiment should have driven its enemies to the north of that point, the houses south of it being captured, all hostilities were to cease. There were some brilliant

of this inspection of 1891 are given. The men were examined and marked for sixteen different things. In eleven of these they were perfect, and in the remaining five very nearly so, as they received 694 points out of a possible 700. Considerable interest has been taken in rifle practice, and the results may be seen in the following report of Lieutenant R. B. Edes, the regimental inspector of rifle practice, for work done during the year 1891: "Company I of Attleboro qualified its full complement of 61 men, and made a record for itself which will be hard to equal and difficult to excel. To accomplish this remarkable feat the hardest and most persistent work was required of officers and men, and they are deserving of the highest credit for making such a glorious record, never before equalled by a company of this regiment and seldom by any militia organization. By its brilliant record in marks-manship, Company I has well earned the title of the 'Shooting company' of the 5th regiment. To Capt. Goff and Lieut. Adams the thanks of the department are tendered for the indefatigable efforts put forth by them in placing their command in the proud position it now holds."

The high point reached continues to be maintained, and great credit is due both officers and men for this fact, for no amount of ability to command on the part of the former could have availed without the hearty inclination to obey on the part of the latter. Company I has been unusually fortunate in both these directions. One who has now retired from the company deserves special praise. He was foremost and essential in the work of its organization. His aim was to make the company a credit to itself and to the community, and he was wise and efficient in carrying out all plans tending towards its realization, ably seconding the men in all their advancing efforts, and never satisfied until they were successful in reaching the high standard set. His ability and faithfulness were recognized and appreciated by the entire company, and it was with great reluctance and only after several repetitions that they suffered the resignation of Lieutenant George A. Adams to be accepted.

The officers for 1893 were as follows:—

Captain, William H. Goff.
First Lieutenant, Herbert A. Clark.
Second " George H. Sykes.
First Sergeant, Walter T. Mason.

Sergeants.

Charles A. Richardson,
Frank C. Gray,

E. H. Briggs,
David L. Lowe.

Corporals.

A. H. Carpenter,
Fred. W. Northup,
Fred. Wilmarth.

Otis F. Hicks,
Wilbur S. Stowe,
Joseph H. Williams.^{1]}

ELECTRIC STREET RAILWAYS.

Some time previous to the division of the town the question as to the advisability of starting an electric street railway company and the practicability of building such a road was mooted. After considerable discussion a number of gentlemen, chiefly of this town, decided to embark in such an enterprise and subscribed the amount of money required by law to start it. They in the early autumn of 1887 organized as the Attleborough, North Attleborough, and Wrentham Street Railway Company, with the following gentlemen as directors: H. G. Bacon, Peter Nerney, C. L. Watson, J. E. Draper, H. M. Daggett, Jr., W. M. Fisher, and F. L. Burden. The projected route was to be from the Park-street railroad crossing in Attleborough through Park and North Main streets in that village; through North Avenue and High Street to North Attleborough; through Elm, Washington, and South streets to School Street, in Plainville, including a distance of six miles. The convenience of such a means of frequent and rapid

¹ A very high compliment has recently been paid to Company I. By order of the Adjutant-General the six Gatling guns belonging to the State militia have been removed from the batteries and placed with Infantry companies. One of these was assigned to and has been received by Company I.

Providence. These are the same at the present time — December, 1893, — with the exception of Mr. Demarest. The officers of the Attleborough, North Attleborough & Wrentham Street Railway Company are the same as above, with the exception of C. T. Guild, who is its clerk. The superintendent of the system is Eli W. Adams. On July 1, 1893, the Interstate Street Railway Company acquired all the rights, franchises, and property of the Attleborough, North Attleborough & Wrentham Street Railway Company, and since that time the roads have been run as one system. The Interstate Company has also purchased a large per cent. of the capital stock of the North Attleborough Steam and Electric Company, which was incorporated April 2, 1886. Most of its officers are gentlemen connected with the purchasing company.

The following words are those of one who has been interested in this enterprise from the outset. They show a little of what has already been done and of what it is hoped may soon be accomplished: —

“The United Electric Traction Co. of New Jersey, who own the Union R. R. Co. and the Pawtucket St. Ry. Co., have made overtures to buy the control of the Interstate Co. but the trade has not been consummated. The relations between the two roads undoubtedly will be harmonious, and persons can at present ride on the Electric Cars from Plainville in the Town of Wrentham to Bullock's Point in the Town of East Prov. (24 miles) or from Attleboro to Roger Williams Park or Pawtuxet. Through the extension of the Electric Lines by the United Traction Co. it is supposed that by Oct. '94, persons can ride from Wrentham to Phoenix by Electric cars. Franchises have also been granted for a line from Pawtucket to Woonsocket, which may be built during the next year. The number of passengers carried from Sept. 30th, '92 to Sept. 30th, '93 was 1,710,135.

“During the Summer of '93 much improvement has been shown in real estate along the line of the Electric Road, one new house having been built in Oldtown, the first for 30 years. A Post Office has been established there, and along a portion of the road a tract of land has been laid out into house lots and 43 lots have been sold to persons who intend building. In So. Attleboro there has been much improvement and 7 new houses have been erected, and a large addition to Coupe's Tannery nearly doubling its capacity has been erected. The Town has constructed water works at this place and new pipes have been laid through the village. A park has been laid out at Walnut Grove which is on high ground and commands an extensive view. It is a very lovely spot and much appreciated by the persons who can reach it by the Electric cars on the Line from Attleboro to Pawtucket. The same can be said as to the improvement of real estate in Attleboro along the line of the Road. There have been erected this year 14 dwelling houses, a large farm has been laid out into house lots and streets, and the widening of streets has begun. In the Town of Seekonk through which we run for about one mile, there have been 3 new houses built and much improvement in the value of land. In the City of Pawtucket between Cottage St. and Central Ave. in the tract contiguous to our Line there have been erected more than 70 dwelling houses and 2 large manufactories established along the line, and the price of real estate is much improved.

“The whole idea of the projectors has not been carried out. It was anticipated that they would have a line of their own in to Prov. and that through cars could be run, and also that express cars could be attached to the passenger cars thus doing an express business which would greatly add to the facilities for doing business in the Towns of Attleboro, No. Attleboro and Plainville which are now served only by one Co. It is hoped that in the near future the express business can be commenced by making an arrangement with the Union Line from Pawtucket to Providence.

“The total investment for the whole enterprise up to date is about \$800,000.00.” (December, 1893.)

[The early history of this great enterprise is like that of many another of a similar nature, and its experiences much the same. Opposition, criticism, hindrances, and delays without number had to be met and overcome, but the figures given show that the public — the great arbiter — at once set its seal of approval upon the scheme, and in no uncertain manner, by its daily, general use of the line. Much had been accomplished toward placing the undertaking upon a firm basis, and matters looked promising for permanent success, when in the autumn of 1893 such serious financial troubles overtook the company as to necessitate the appointment of a receiver. Added to this misfortune, on the night of January 1, 1894, the power-house — the



1. Drayton Mill. 2. North Attleborough National Bank Building. 3. North Attleborough Steam and Electric Co. Power House. 4. Farmers Mill and Old Depot. 5. Merchants Mill. 6. Merchants Mill.

CHAPTER XV.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

PEREZ BRADFORD was a great-grandson of Governor Bradford. In his father's family there were nine sons, and in the year 1720 these nine brothers, "all men of high personal character," were, with their families, living in the town of Kingston, Mass. One of these, Major William Bradford, was the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, and Lieutenant Samuel Bradford was his father. His mother was Hannah Rogers, daughter of John Rogers, of Duxbury, this State, in which place Mr. Bradford had settled. Mr. Rogers was at one time a resident of Barrington, R. I., Mount Hope Neck. Hannah Rogers Bradford was great-granddaughter of the famous John Alden who tried to woo the Puritan maiden Priscilla for his friend, the doughty Miles Standish, and to his surprise — but evident satisfaction — won her for himself.

Perez Bradford was third in a family of seven children and was born in Duxbury in 1694. He graduated at Harvard College in 1713. About 1717 he was a resident of Kingston and probably lived upon his grandfather's estate there. Nothing appears to be known of his wife beyond her name, which was Abigail Baleb. In 1732 the records show that he was living in Milton, for at that time he and two cousins became administrators of the estate of his grandfather, John Rogers. He was there also a year later, for on July 16, 1733, his mother, "Hannah Bradford, a widow, of Duxbury, in consideration of £500, conveyed to him one hundred and ten acres of land in Swansea." This (Barrington) was formerly the homestead of his maternal grandfather. September 6, 1745, Mr. Bradford was living on this homestead in Swansea, for at that time he bought the homestead of Benjamin Wise in this town — containing seventy acres and an additional tract of fifty acres — for the sum of £1,300.

Immediately after this he removed to this town and in the following spring was chosen a representative to the General Court. On the meeting of the Legislature he was elected one of the Council and took his seat as a member the last Wednesday of May, 1746. He died on the nineteenth day of the following June.

Mr. Bradford had eight children, four sons and four daughters. One of these daughters, Hannah, married Jabez Gay, a man prominent in the town, April 30, 1746.

In the old burying ground at West Attleborough are two gravestones, inscribed as follows: —

"In memory of Hon. Peter Readford, who departed this life on ye 14th day of June, 1746, in ye 62 year of his age."

"In memory of Mrs. Abigail Readford, widow and relict of ye late Hon. Peter Readford, Esq., who departed this life on 15th of November, 1746, at ye 62 year of her age."

REV. NATHANIEL DAGGETT, D.D., President of Yale College, was the son of Ebenezer Daggett and Mary, his wife (daughter of Pontreux Blackinton), and was born in Attleborough, at the old residence of the late Harvey M. Daggett, September 8, 1727. He was the second surviving child of eight. His father dying while he was yet young, he was left under the direction of a mother who was, however, in every respect peculiarly qualified to discharge the duties which devolved upon her. He soon after commenced studies preparatory to college. When he was quite a youth the Rev. Solomon Read, of Bridgewater, — then a licentiate, but afterwards a settled minister in Framingham and Middleborough, — became acquainted with him and formed a high opinion of his talents and promise. He took Mr. Daggett and two other youths of the vicinity as pupils and received them for a time into his own family, without charge, with a view of aiding them to obtain a liberal education for the purpose of entering the ministry. The following record tends to prove that the idea of studying for the ministry was probably impressed upon Mr. Daggett's mind at an early age: "In the revival of 1740, two hundred persons were added to his [Hudson Wells's] church, among them Nathaniel Daggett." He was then thirteen years old. He was for a time, by his patron's assistance, under the tuition of the distinguished Dr. Forbes, of Roxbury; then under that of Mr. (afterwards the Rev. Dr.) James Coggeswell, who was teaching a school in Plainfield, Conn. Remaining with him a year and a half, he then removed to Abington, Mr. Read's native place, where he continued to prosecute his studies under his first tutor's direction.

In the summer of 1744 Mr. Read took this pupil, with others, to Cambridge with a view to offer them for admission to Harvard College, but some unexpected difficulties having arisen in regard to their being admitted to an examination — difficulties, it would seem, connected with the theological controversies of the day and which Mr. Read's efforts, seconded by those of the Rev. Mr. Weld, of this town, could not overcome — he took young Daggett and several of his pupils to New Haven and entered them in Yale College in the autumn of the same year, 1744. Mr. Daggett graduated in 1748, at the age of twenty-one. He was distinguished during his college life for industry and close application and thorough scholarship. His college diary indicates extensive readings and the examination of philosophical works.

The old Peter Readford, and his son, Abigail's father, a prominent and active member of the church, died August 15, 1746, and is buried in the cemetery of his church in New Haven. His name is given in the Yale College Catalogue — 1840-1841.

He was settled as minister at Smithtown, Long Island, and was ordained over the church there September 18, 1751, as is shown by a letter to his brother, Colonel John Daggett, dated November 18, 1751. During his residence there, on December 19, 1753, he was married to Sarah Smith, daughter of the third Richard Smith, by Rev. Ebenezer Prime. She was born September 16 (O. S.), 1728, and died at New Haven, March 25, 1772, aged forty-three years and six months.

In his memorandum, which came into the possession of the author of this work, Mr. Daggett says that he was dismissed from his pastoral charge at Smithtown, November 6, 1755, for the purpose of removing to New Haven. In September, 1755, he had been elected the first Professor of Divinity in Yale College, the professorship being denominated the "Livingston Professorship of Divinity." He accepted the appointment, removed to New Haven, and was inducted into office on the fourth of March following, 1756.¹ This office he held during the remainder of his life.

The president of the college, Rev. Thomas Clap, resigned September 10, 1766. The corporation made choice of Rev. James Lockwood as his successor, but he declined to accept the office, and they "proceeded at once to elect the Professor of Divinity, Rev. Naphtali Daggett, D.D., President *pro tempore*, with the understanding, however, that he was to continue to discharge the duties of his professorship." During his administration of eleven years, notwithstanding the disadvantages of the times—for they were the years of turbulence and political excitement preceding the Revolutionary War—the college was eminently prosperous and successful. The number of students was larger than before, especially during the later years of his administration, when it is said many young men were sent to college by their parents to avoid their being drafted into the army. The prosperity of the college at this time, however, was largely due to the fact "that the corporation were able to secure a succession of tutors of unusual ability." At that early date there were few professors and the instruction was given chiefly by "tutors as they were then for the most part called." Among these, under Dr. Daggett, were such men as the following: Hon. Stephen Mix Mitchell, subsequently Judge of the Superior Court; Rev. Dr. Wales, the successor of Dr. Daggett in the professorship of divinity; Hon. John Trumbull, author of "McFingal";

¹ The foundation of this professorship was laid in 1746, by a donation from the Hon. Philip Livingston, of New York, and having received a considerable addition of money for it, from Mr. Garrison Clark, of Lebanon, with some appropriations by the college, it was at length decided to erect, for the support of such an office, which was accordingly established in 1756. A house for the use of the room which was erected by subscription and finished in 1758. It was like the ordinary New England house of its day, nearly square, two-stories high, with a garret above, the front door in the centre opening into a little entry and behind that the great chimney, occupying a large space in the middle of the house. Its outside looked very much like an old house, with the date of its erection over the doorway standing on the north side of New Haven green on Elm Street. It had no L. It stood on the site of the present Medical College and remained for fully a century, being finally demolished about 1860 to give space for the erection of a wing to the college building. It was given to Yale College by Dr. Daggett.

Rev. Dr. Dwight, afterwards president of the college, Rev. Dr. J. Burges, afterwards of Portsmouth, N. H., Rev. Dr. Strong, of Hartford, Conn., and Hon. John Davenport, for eighteen or twenty years a member of Congress from Connecticut. There was a large number of men connected with Yale College during those years who, Dr. Daggett held office, who became very eminent in after years as professors, writers, judges, judges, ministers, members of Congress, etc., and among these famous graduates, many of whom became tutors, may be mentioned Rev. Joseph Howe, Joel Barlow, member of the "Committee of 1774," Oliver Wolcott, Governor of Connecticut, Nathaniel Chapman, Chancellor Goodrich, David Humphrey, Abraham Baldwin, Noah Webster, the lexicographer, and James A. Hillhouse, who was tutor, treasurer of the college for fifty years, and the man to whom the city of New Haven is so justly indebted for one of its chiefest attractions, those noble trees which have gained for it the name of the "City of Elms."

Dr. Daggett presided over the university about eleven years, and held the office of professor of DIVINITY TWENTY-THREE YEARS. Possessed of a strong, clear, and comprehensive mind, he applied himself with assiduity and success to the various branches of knowledge, particularly to the learned languages and divinity. Dr. Holmes, in his life of Dr. Stiles, says of him: "He was a good classical scholar, well versed in moral philosophy, and a learned divine." Clearness of understanding and accuracy of thought were characteristic of his mind. He received the honorary degree of D.D. from Yale College in 1771, that of S.T.D. from Harvard College, and in 1774 the same degree from Nassau College, Princeton, N. J.

When the burning out of building the college suffered in various parts. Many of the students left their studies to take up the use of arms, and so troublous were the times in New Haven it became impossible to procure regular food for those who remained. In the spring of 1777 the classes were separated, the senior class dismissed without any public examination or exhibition, and the three lower classes were sent each to some interior town with its respective tutors, where they could pursue their studies. At this time, April 1, 1777, Dr. Daggett resigned his presidency, but as professor of divinity, and as the liberal mind as often as he could with success.

On his resignation the respectful "Gentlemen who make up all his painful and faithful services for the advantage of the College, wishing him a happy repose, future usefulness in life, and an abundant reward in the world above." The learned Dr. Stiles was his successor.

During the barbarous attack on New Haven by the British army in July, 1779, he took an active part in the defence of the country, and was distin-

1. See sketch of his early life in the sketch of his father, Dr. John Davenport, in the "Sketch of the Life of Dr. John Davenport," published by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, New York, 1840. Also in the "Memoirs of Dr. John Davenport," published by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, New York, 1840.

guished for his resolution and intrepidity. He was taken prisoner and came near losing his life. He had made himself obnoxious by his open and active opposition to the British cause. He had often inculcated upon the students under his charge, in the pulpit and in the lecture-room, the duty of resistance to British oppression. He had therefore incurred the special displeasure of the invaders. He had openly preached and prayed against the success of their cause. He knew no difference between preaching and practising, and when the crisis came he carried his principles into action. He shouldered his musket and went into the field with the rest to repel the invaders, and when taken prisoner the enemy offered him every indignity in their power. His clerical character was in their eyes no reason for exemption from the most outrageous abuse.

The following extracts are from an account of his actions during this attack on New Haven by the British, under General Tryon, given by Hon. Elizur Goodrich, LL.D., formerly professor of law in Yale College. It was furnished to the *Attleborough Weekly Bulletin* a number of years ago by Professor Goodrich's son, Mr. Chauncey A. Goodrich. Mr. Goodrich says:—

“On the evening of the 4th of July, 1779, a force of twenty-five hundred men, which had previously sailed from New York, landed on the south part of West Haven, a parish of New Haven, about five miles from the center of the town. College was of course broken up, and the students, with many of the inhabitants, prepared to flee on the morrow into the neighboring country. To give more time for preparation, and especially for the removal of goods, a volunteer company of about a hundred young men was formed, not with the expectation of making any serious stand against such a force, but simply of retarding, or diverting its march. In common with others of the students, I was one of the number, and I well remember the surprise we felt the next morning, July 5th, as we were marching over West Bridge towards the enemy, to see Dr. Daggett riding furiously by us on his old black mare, with his long fowling-piece in his hand, ready for action. We knew the old gentleman had studied the matter thoroughly, and satisfied his own mind as to the right and propriety of fighting it out, but we were not quite prepared to see him come forth in so gallant a style to carry his principles into practice. Giving him a hearty cheer as he passed, we turned down towards West Haven, while he ascended a little to the West, and took his station in a copse of wood, to reconnoiter, and bide his time.”

This company of young men met a small party of the enemy, fired upon and chased them, but, suddenly finding themselves almost surrounded by the full force of the enemy, were obliged to turn and run for their lives. Dr. Daggett, however, as the story goes, stood his ground manfully, and as the columns of the British passed the little hill where he stood under cover of the bushes he used his fowling-piece with excellent effect. Mr. Goodrich continues: “A detachment was sent to look into the matter and the commanding

Rev. Payson Williston says of him: "President Daggett was one of my father's intimate friends. His social qualities (altogether) were such as to render him more than ordinarily attractive. The college was eminently prosperous under his presidency."

The following extract is from the communication of Hon. Elizur Goodrich, before quoted: "In person Dr. Daggett was of about the middle height, strong framed, inclining to be corpulent, slow in his gait, and somewhat clumsy in his movements. There was a story among the students which illustrates a prominent characteristic of the clergy of that day—I mean a love of drollery and of keen retort. 'Good morning, Mr. President *pro tempore*,' said one of his clerical brethren on some public occasion, bowing very profoundly, and laying a marked emphasis on the closing words of his title. 'Did you ever hear of a President *pro aternitate*?' said the old gentleman in reply, drawing himself up with an amused air of stateliness, and turning the laugh of the whole company on his assailant."

"His religious system, I suppose, was the old New England Theology, unadulterated and unmodified. As a preacher he was not particularly animated, but his sermons were full of well-digested, weighty thought, clearly expressed, and were always written out with great care. He was considered a very well read and able theologian; indeed that was sufficiently indicated by his occupying the chair of Theological Professor. He preached his entire system regularly, once in four years, with, I believe, scarcely any variation. I recollect to have heard the late Dr. Lyman, of Hartford, who sat under President Daggett's ministry during his college course, express a high estimate of him as a preacher; and he remarks that he had a sermon on the text—'Is thy servant a dog, that he should do this thing,' etc., and when the fourth year came round, he always said, 'And the dog did it.' There were a number of President Daggett's sermons published, and there are others remaining in manuscript, which show that he possessed much more than ordinary ability. He kept remarkably aloof from the religious controversies of his time, and contented himself to preach what he believed to be the truth, without combating what he regarded as the erroneous speculations of others." The number of his written sermons was about five hundred. Among those he published was one delivered at the ordination of Rev. Ebenezer Baldwin,

It became for a time quite a successful rival of the order of a more conservative society. "The first of a progressive step was the adoption, in 1811, of the new style of the catalogue, which changed the printing of the college laws, etc., from Latin into English. This was the change which gave to the present style of printing students' names in the catalogue, as in the catalogue of 1811. Up to that time the custom had obtained of printing them according to the rank in society that their fathers were supposed to possess, and it was considered a very severe rebuke to a family to be placed lower than the social rank demanded. Position would therefore be considered worthy of great emulation, and an amusing anecdote is told of one student whose father was a cooper, who, when he was questioned as to his father's position in life, replied that he was an *Arboricola*—thereby securing for himself a high place in the catalogue."

took a parental care of you. His faithfulness and unwearied diligence in the discharge of his duty towards you, are well known to you all. I am witness to the deep concern for your welfare, which lay with pressing weight upon his mind, especially for the everlasting welfare of your immortal souls. View him, then, as your deceased father, with all those emotions of dutiful, filial respect, which become bereaved children. Remember how often, how faithfully, with what seriousness and solemnity, he very lately used to instruct, counsel, and admonish you as children, fervently praying with and for you in this very place. Let his death serve to revive and rivet them in your memory, and enforce them on your consciences, that they may be the means of making you wise to salvation.

Although he is dead, he still speaks loudly to you. Pay, then, a practical regard to the good and serious counsels which he hath so often given you; devote yourselves to God, mind religion, and give all diligence to secure the salvation of your souls. Otherwise, that very person will rise up in the Day of Judgment, and testify against you that ye set at naught all the counsels of wisdom, "and would none of her reproofs."

May we all, in this instance, mark the perfect man, and behold the upright, and see how his end is peace, and may we all be quickened by the consideration, to secure a due preparation for death, by discharging faithfully the work and duty of life, that when the shadows of that long night, which is hastening towards us, shall be spread over us, we may quietly fall asleep with Jesus, and be remembered in the resurrection of the just.

Dr. Daggett died, as before stated, November 25, 1780. "His funeral was attended November 27, 1780, with every demonstration of respect. President Stiles preached on the occasion, and a Latin funeral oration was delivered by Mr. John Barnett, a Junior Bachelor, and a resident graduate."

It is a somewhat remarkable circumstance that Dr. Daggett and Dr. Stiles each delivered a funeral sermon on his immediate predecessor. Dr. Daggett is buried in the old cemetery at New Haven, though his remains have been removed, with those of others, from their first burial place, which was on the green on the site of Center Church. The following inscription is on his gravestone:—

Rev. Naphtali Daggett, D.D.
born at Attleborough, Mass. Sept. 8th, 1727,
died at New Haven, Nov. 25th, 1780.
Pastor of the church at Smithtown, L. I.
1751 to 1755
Professor of Divinity in Yale College, 1755
to his death.
President, 1766 to 1777.

Dr. Daggett left several children. A daughter Mary married a Mr. Platt and lived in Peru, Clinton County, New York. Another daughter, named Sally, was single at the time of his death, as is shown by a letter addressed to her at Wetherfield by President Ezra Stiles, announcing her father's death.

One of his sons was Henry, who served as a captain in the Revolutionary War. He was born in New Haven, February 27, 1758, and graduated at Yale College in 1775. For many years after leaving the army he was a merchant in his native city. He died July 20, 1843, aged eighty-five. His wife was Anna, daughter of Deacon Stephen Ball. She died in 1844 at the age of eighty. They had at least four children—Mary, Ebenezer, Henry,

Grave. Captain Henry Daggett was esteemed and loved for his upright and noble and kind honest and honest.

Grace A. Daggett, the daughter of Captain Daggett, died in New Haven within a few years, having reached the remarkable age of ninety-two. From her long and interesting life was a most interesting link between the Revolutionary period and our own time. Miss Daggett was living at the time of the centennial celebration of that period in New Haven, in which her gentle father, Dr. Daggett, took such an active part, and notwithstanding her extreme age took a great interest in the occasion. She was at the time the guest of "Franklin Massie" of the New Haven House, and viewed the procession from his balcony. She was surrounded by the Howe family and remained much busied attending during the day.

At the time of her death she had been a member of Central Church for forty-one years. It is said she was a woman of uncommon great sense and strong sense of character.

COLONEL JOHN DAGGETT, an elder brother of the preceding, born September 2, 1724, was one of the principal public characters and leading men of the town, especially during the trying period of the Revolution. He and Colonel May were the two on whom the town placed the utmost reliance. He was possessed of a strong and sound mind and was marked by a resolute and decided character. He was a Puritan in the plainness and simplicity of his manners and was a firm friend to the civil institutions and republican customs of New England.

In 1758 he was chosen to represent the town at the General Court, and for a long succession of years (eight years actually) he was selected to member of the Legislature. He was commissioned one of his majesty's justices of the peace under the Provincial Government before the Revolution. He took an early and decided stand with many other patriotic citizens of this town in the commencement of those proceedings which produced the Revolution. He was a member of the Provincial Congress which assembled at Concord, September 15, 1774, for the purpose of adopting a constitution, being one of the three men from this town who were members of that convention which formed the present Constitution of Massachusetts. In 1780 he for the ninth time represented the town at the General Court. He was generally called to serve on the most important committees which were raised in those times on various the most difficult subjects which were then brought before the people during and subsequent to the Revolution.

His first military commission was conferred upon him in 1758, when he became ensign in the second militia company in Attleborough, and ten years later he became captain by promotion. This company then belonged to the Third Regiment of Bristol County, and about the time the War of the Revolution commenced the regiment was divided and the companies from the western portion of the county were formed into and constituted the

Fourth Regiment, of which he was commissioned colonel. This was in February, 1776. It was about a year previous to this time that Colonel Daggett had undertaken the expedition to Assonet for the purpose of breaking up a Royalist combination which had stored ammunition in that place. He and his comrades thus had the honor of being the first actors in the first scene of the great Revolutionary drama. Colonel Daggett commanded the regiment from the county of Bristol both in Spencer's and Sullivan's expeditions on Rhode Island in 1777 and 1779.

At home he was extensively employed as a surveyor and was engaged in various other kinds of public business, such as the ordinary transactions of life require between citizens. His first wife was Mercy Shepard, daughter of John Shepard, the centenarian. They had nine children—John, Jr., Joab, Jesse, Bathsheba, Mercy, Ebenezer, Levi, Hannah, and Huldah. She died February 1, 1783, and on August 5, 1784, Colonel Daggett married Mary Tucker, of Norton. He died, universally respected, January 20, 1803, at the age of seventy-nine.

In the *Providence Gazette* bearing date February 5, 1803, is the following notice of him: "He bore a long indisposition with Christian fortitude, and died in the hope of a blessed immortality. He was a very respectable citizen, and highly useful in society; he served his town for many years as a representative to the General Court; he commanded a regiment of militia during the Revolutionary war, and sustained the office of a justice of the peace for many years to general satisfaction; he supported an unblemished character through life, and has furnished an example worthy of imitation."

DR. EBENEZER DAGGETT, a third brother, was a respectable physician who settled in Walpole and later in Wrentham village, where he acquired an extensive practice. May 25, 1758, he married Susannah Metcalf, daughter of Timothy Metcalf, Esq., of Wrentham, by whom he had several children. The following is the inscription on his gravestone:—

Doct. Ebenezer Daggett,
who died Feb. 26th, 1782,
in the 50th year of his age.

In the cold mansions of the silent tomb
How still the solitude! how deep the gloom!
Here sleeps the dust unconscious, else would
But far, far distant dwells the immortal soul.

His son, Rev. Herman Daggett, graduated at Brown University in 1788 and pursued his professional studies with Dr. Emmons, of Franklin. He was settled for some years in the ministry on Long Island and in several places. He preached also in New York State. He was also a teacher. He finally went to Connecticut, where he taught for some years and in 1818 became the first principal of the Foreign Mission School established in Cornwall by the American Board.

Some writers say:—"Mr. Duggett was a man of sterling faculties, (88) not only a profound scholar, but person of excellent character. To all his other accomplishments he united the most sagacious business of politician and an exact, systematic arrangement of all his various duties. He was remarkably diligent in his manners, and scrupulous in his deportment." He is several times mentioned by Dr. Lyman Beecher in his autobiography, such as follows:—"From time to time Horatio Duggett, also, a mild, interesting man, whose manners were all fitted for the press every day. He was cheerful, but never known to smile, so it was said. It was also remarked of him, that he was 'just fit to preach to himself.'" He died in 1833.

HENRY DAVIS DUGGETT was born in this town December 31, 1753, and was a great friend of John Jay, Esq. His father was Thomas, the son of Thomas; his mother was Silah's daughter of this town. He studied for a time under Mr. William Williams, who had at that time a classical school or academy at Winsted. He entered Yale College. He was seventeen, in the junior class, two years in advance, and graduated with high honors in 1783. Soon after leaving college he commenced his legal studies under Charles Chauncey, Esq., and at the same time supported himself by performing the duties of preceptor in the Hopkins Grammar School, in New Haven, and of butler in college. In January, 1786, he was admitted to the bar and settled in New Haven. A short time after this he was chosen a tutor in the college, but owing to his strong preference for the law he declined the appointment.

His fellow-citizens, however, soon claimed him for civil service. In 1791 he was elected a representative to the General Assembly, from New Haven, and was reelected for six years successively, and then transferred to the Senate. While in the House he was one of the youngest members, and in 1794, three years after his first election, was chosen speaker, at the age of twenty-nine. He retained his seat in the Upper House for seven years,—from 1797 to 1804,—when he resigned. He continued to reside in the office of the State Legislature till May, 1813, when he was elected to the United States Senate. In 1811 he had been appointed State Attorney for New Haven, and he continued in the office until his election to Congress caused him to resign it. When his senatorial term expired he returned to New Haven, and resumed his extensive law practice there.

In November, 1814, he was consulted with Judge H. A. Phelps, as instructor in the Law School in New Haven, and in 1826 he was appointed Kent Professor of Law in Yale College. These positions he held until he had reached a very advanced age and his infirmities made it necessary for him to resign them. In 1826 Yale College conferred upon him the honorary degree of LL.D., and in May of the same year, at the age of sixty-two, he was chosen an associate judge of the Superior Court of Connecticut. It is worthy of note that this appointment was made by a legislature a majority of whose members were opposed to him on political principles, and

preferences," and bears strong testimony not only to his eminent fitness for that high office, but "honorable testimony as well respecting his political opponents," who were willing to forget partisanship, and place in such a position the one best fitted to discharge its duties. In 1828 and 1829 he was mayor of the city of New Haven, and in May, 1832, he was made Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Connecticut. This was a special testimony to his qualifications, as the usual custom of appointing the senior judge upon the bench to that high office was set aside in his case. He held this office of chief justice until December 31, 1834, when he had arrived at the age of constitutional disability. "Thus for forty-five years, from the beginning of his twenty-sixth to the close of his seventieth year, Mr. Daggett was almost continually engaged in public service."

Soon after commencing his law practice, at the age of twenty-one, Judge Daggett married Wealthy Ann, daughter of Eneas Munson, of New Haven, a woman well fitted by "her strong and marked intellectual and religious character" to be the companion of such a man. She died in July, 1839, at the age of seventy-two. In May, 1840, Judge Daggett married Mary, daughter of Major Lines, also of New Haven. By his first wife he had nineteen children, fourteen of whom lived for a considerable time. One of them, a daughter, married Dr. Sereno Dwight, president of Hamilton College, New York; another, a son, an unusually promising young man, lived to graduate from college and then died. Three children only survived the father's death: Leonard A., Wealthy Ann,—who married a Mr. Jenkins,—and Oliver Ellsworth, all of whom are now dead.

Judge Daggett died April 12, 1851, having entered and passed through a quarter part of his eighty-seventh year. The author was indebted to Mr. Leonard A. Daggett, his son, for a sketch of the father's life, as found in an address delivered by his pastor, Rev. Dr. Dutton, which, with reminiscences, etc., was published. From this publication some extracts, anecdotes, etc., are given:—

"The eminence of Judge Daggett in his profession, and among the public men of the State, is sufficiently attested, by the preceding account of the many positions of high responsibility and trust, in which he was placed by the guardians of Yale college, and by the people of this town (New Haven), and this commonwealth; especially when we remember that the political party to which he belonged, which was dominant in the State till he was past middle life, and gave him the most of his honors, embraced, confessedly, many of the most powerful and brilliant minds of the State; and if we remember also, that some of the highest of these trusts were devolved upon him, when his political opponents had come into power, and his own party had passed into a minority."

He commenced his professional and public career, two years before the Federal Constitution was adopted, and joined the party called Federal, of which, it is said, he was not a partisan merely, but a wise and consistent advocate and supporter, and that while Connecticut had many strong men in that party, there was none more so than he. "For many years, no man in the State had so much political influence, an influence amounting so nearly to a political control of the State, as he. And since the defeat and prostration of that party, and the formation of new parties upon new issues, *he*, certainly, has never been ashamed, or reluctant, to have it known,

The judge immediately corrected the mistake. The lawyer courteously acknowledged the correction, and was proceeding with his argument, when another lawyer who sat near him pulled his coat, and said in a loud whisper, "You must look out how you quote *Scripture* when *Daggett* is on the bench."

He attached so much importance to familiarity with biblical language, that he was very anxious to have his children acquire it, and upon one occasion he offered the gift of a horse, to his youngest son, when he was a mere youth, "if he would commit to memory, the whole book of Job. The task was undertaken and accomplished. The horse accordingly was bought and given, and was appropriately named Job."

Judge Daggett from the very commencement of his active life was a liberal supporter of religious institutions. He was always a regular attendant upon church services, and when past middle life he became connected with the North — now the United — Church of New Haven.

He was an enthusiast in his profession, and felt he had not been wise to be so much in political life. In speaking of himself in this connection he said: "Every hour away from his professional studies and pursuits has been away from his duty, and he has felt the evil in his purse if not otherwise." He was very much interested in young men and especially in those who were to follow his own profession. He not only gave them words of encouragement and counsel but proved his interest by many deeds of kindness and generosity. One instance among many is mentioned. He sent at one time for a young law student to call at his office. Greeting him very cordially, he said he knew what it was to be a young man dependent upon his own exertions; asked if he did not want some money, adding that \$100 or \$200 would be loaned to him with pleasure. The young man was grateful, but disliked to borrow, lest he might never be able to pay, which would be the case if he should not live or succeed in life. "Never mind that," said Mr. Daggett, "I have no concern about the pay or your success — both are sure." The money was finally accepted, and in time repaid; but the encouragement of the action and the gratitude it called for were of far more value to the young man than the money.

"Judge Daggett was a true and accomplished gentleman. He was, in a very extraordinary degree, polished in his manners, gracefully and scrupulously observant of all civilities. His courtesy was remarkable. He was disposed, and his almost instinctive sense of propriety and his graceful and easy manners and language enabled him, to please all whom he met; and this made him a model of courtesy. In the performance of social civilities and duties, to relatives, neighbors, and friends, he was an example, such as is rarely if ever found in these days. His courtesy, his varied knowledge of men and things, his lively feelings accommodated readily to the old and the young, his cheerfulness, his wit and humor, his fund of anecdote, and his reminiscences of the past, made him the life of every social circle into which he entered.

"The immediate occasion of Judge Daggett's death was simply a cold which came upon him about ten days before that event. It settled upon his

Lieutenant Samuel and Zipporah Mann, and was born in Wrentham, June 15, 1722. He had two brothers who were born and lived and died in that town. Rufus left descendants; Ebenezer died without children. They lived in the Cowell neighborhood. Dr. Mann studied his profession with Dr. Hewes, of Foxborough, and commenced the practice of it in this town some time previous to 1750. He had the reputation of being a skilful physician, and had acquired an extensive circle of practice. He was a man of influence and ability, as his public services sufficiently attest. During the Revolutionary period he was chosen to positions of trust and responsibility, which in those days were filled only by men in whose honor and integrity the people placed entire confidence. He was a man of letters, as well as an expert physician, and some of his writings are, it is said, preserved in the New England Genealogical and Historical Society in Boston.

His character is justly portrayed in his epitaph: —

Bezaleel Mann, mort. die Octo. tert. 1796, ætat. 74. Early imbued with the principles of moral rectitude, he sustained through the diversified concerns of a long and active life, the character of an honest man. As a physician, he commanded, during the period of nearly 50 years, that unlimited confidence and respect, which talents alone can inspire. The features of his mind were sketched by the glowing pencil of nature, filled up with the qualities that adorn humanity, and shaded with few infirmities the frequent attendants on mental excellence.

His wife was Bebe, daughter of Mr. Ezekiel Carpenter, of this town. She lies buried by the side of her husband in the family burying-ground at West Attleborough and her epitaph tells the story of her life and character: —

Bebe Mann, his wife, mort. die Octo. tert. 1793, ætat. 61. She was a person of bright genius, of few words, and much reserved in mind. From early youth she marked all her paths with virtue, and timely took the advice Christ gave to his disciples, and made to herself a friend of the mammon of unrighteousness, and when she failed, could, with Christian confidence, say, that her witness was in heaven and her reward on high.

This stone is erected by the grateful hand of filial piety to protect the awful dust of revered parents.

These inscriptions may be found in Alden's valuable Collection of Epitaphs.

Dr. Mann had several sons who entered the profession.

PRESTON MANN was the first graduate from this town at Brown University, 1776. He became a physician and settled at Newport, R. I., where he was for years a leader in social circles. He acquired wealth and owned a handsome and extensive place, and long after his fortune rendered the practice of his profession unnecessary he was frequently summoned to consultations. He was a noble and upright man, one of culture and refinement, of courtly and polished manners. His acquaintance embraced the most distinguished persons

President of the Senate, Secretary of the Board of Education of Massachusetts, President of the State Lunatic Hospital at Worcester, a member of Congress, and President of a Hotel College at Yellow Springs, Greene County, Ohio, where he died of the great cholera, after a brief illness, in the interests of that then struggling institution, and where he died in 1850. His statue stands in front of the State House at Boston on the side of Court of Dances, Worcester.

at the time and the present author was the centre of a charming and liberal atmosphere where extended among the people of the highest social position in the land. This mansion consisted in two floors with a few years ago and is still, it is still a fine building, magnificent.

John Mearns (MASS.) in the 1920's was also a graduate of Brown University (1871) and became a physician. He returned to Hudson, N. Y., in 1890, where he was drowned in attempting to cross the river. It was in the night, and he was called to the bedside of a patient—and he struck his death while in the performance of his duty. This occurred August 24, 1890. A monument was erected to his memory by the citizens of Hudson, N.Y., which was placed the following inscription:¹

[illegible]

HERBERT MANN, still another son, and said to be the brightest of them all, was educated a physician and surgeon, as appears on the parent's General Arnold's Captain Mann, and was one in that father's story. He was buried in Plymouth Harbor, December 26, 1778. The stone which is here erected to his memory contains the following epitaph: "In memory of Doctor Herbert Mann, was (sic) the)) Captain Mann, who went on board the brig General Arnold, in Boston Harbor, 25th. Dec. 1778, hoisted sail, made for sea, and were immediately overtaken by the most tremendous snow storm with cold, that was ever known in the memory of man, and, unhappily, parted their cable in Plymouth harbor, in a place called the Cow-yards, and he, with about 100 others, was frozen to death; sixty-six of whom were buried in one grave." He was in the 21st year of his age.—And now Lord God Almighty, just and true are all thy ways, but who can stand before thy cold."

In the *Blackburn "History of Plymouth,"* a vessel is said to have been wrecked on this most terrible storm and awful wreck known in history, which seems almost unparalleled in human suffering:—

In 1778, December 26th, 27th, the inhabitants of this town were called to witness a catastrophe truly appalling to humanity. The brig 'General Arnold,' mounting twenty guns, having a crew of one hundred and five men and boys, commanded by Capt. James Magee, of Boston, sailed from that port on Thursday, 24th of December, bound on a cruise. On Friday anchored off Plymouth Harbor, being destitute of a pilot. In the night, a heavy gale, drove on the White Flat. She soon filled with water, and it became necessary to cut away the masts. Unfortunately a great disturbance was occasioned by intoxication among some of the seamen in the steerage, which was with difficulty quelled by the officers. A tremendous storm of wind and snow came on, and a considerable number of men died on Saturday afternoon, and in the night. Three men, not of the crew, being on board, took the yawl and passed eight or ten rods to the ice, and were taken on board a schooner that was frozen in. Had the boat been returned as promised, many lives would have been saved.

Sunday morning the vessel was seen in a most distressful situation, enveloped in ice and snow, and the whole shore was frozen to a solid body of ice, the winds and waves raging with such dreadful violence that no possible relief could be afforded to the miserable sufferers. The inhabitants made every effort to reach the wreck in boats, but were obliged to put back, although aware that the seamen were in the arms of death, and when the miserable victims on board saw the boats returning, leaving them in a condition of utter hopelessness, their spirits were appalled, and numbers were seen to fall dead on the deck.

On Monday the inhabitants passed over the ice to the wreck. Here was presented a scene unutterably awful and distressing. It is scarcely possible for the human mind to conceive of a more appalling spectacle. The ship was sunk ten feet in the sand; the waves had been for about thirty-six hours sweeping the main deck; the men had crowded to the quarter-deck, and even here they were obliged to pile together dead bodies to make room for the living. Seventy dead bodies, frozen into all imaginable postures, were strewn over the deck or attached to the shrouds and spars; about thirty exhibited signs of life, but were unconscious whether in life or death. The bodies remained in the postures in which they died, the features dreadfully distorted; some were erect, some bending forward, some sitting with the head resting on the knees, and some with both arms extended, clinging to spars or some parts of the vessel. The few survivors, and the dead bodies were brought over the ice on sleds and boards, and the dead were piled on the floor of the courthouse, exhibiting a scene calculated to impress even the most callous heart with deep humility and sorrow. It has been said that the Rev. Mr. Robbins fainted when called to perform the funeral ceremonies. Those bodies that were to be deposited in coffins were first put into the town book; a considerable number were seen floating on the water fastened by ropes, that their form might be made to conform to the coffins, but about sixty were thrown into a large pit as they were taken from the vessel. This pit is in a hollow on the south-west side of the burial-ground, and remains without a stone. The greater part of those who were found alive expired soon after. Capt. Magee survived, and performed several profitable voyages afterwards. He abstained entirely from drinking ardent spirits, but was of opinion that he was greatly benefited by putting rum into his boots. Those who drank rum were the more immediate victims, several being found dead in the very spot where they drank it.

The following letter from Captain Magee is deemed sufficiently interesting to present here :¹

As I am informed a report has circulated through the country that myself and people did not receive that relief and assistance to which the distressed and unfortunate are ever entitled, justice to the inhabitants of the town of Plymouth, in which harbor I was unhappily shipwrecked, indispensably requires of me to contradict so groundless a report, and state the circumstances.

Agreeable to the account before published, in the morning of the 26th ultimo, in the severest

¹ It was printed in the *Boston Evening Post* of January 24, 1779, and with some alterations, was taken from an account of this calamity by William S. Russell, Esq., printed in the *Old Colony Memorial*, Plymouth, December 15, 1822.

Dr. Bezaleel Mann had also several daughters. One of them, Mary, married Mr. Josiah Draper, a prominent man of this town. She died May 2, 1808, in the fifty-fourth year of her age, and is buried in the family burying-ground in Oldtown. The following inscription is upon her headstone:—

“She conducted her household and her affairs with discretion. She tempered her authority with a happy mixture of tender affection. She met Death with the resignation and hope of a Christian.”

Another daughter married a Mr. Richmond and settled in Providence.

Still another, Eunice, on September 9, 1790, married Dr. Seth Capron, of this town, one of her father's students. They removed with her brother Newton to New York.

GENERAL HORACE CAPRON was their son, and was born in this town August 4, 1804. As his parents had settled in New York State, doubtless his childhood was passed there. When a young man he went to the manufacturing town of Laurel, Md., and became largely interested in factories there. He also became interested in agricultural pursuits—purchased a farm in the vicinity of the town, which he made quite famous by the excellent manner in which he cultivated it. He was commander of the militia company of Laurel, and with his company participated in the ceremonies at the laying of the cornerstone of the Washington Monument. He removed from Maryland to Illinois and entered the army from that State.

In January, 1863, he received a commission as Lieutenant-Colonel of the Fourteenth Illinois Cavalry, and in a very short time was promoted to the colonelcy. He was constantly in active service while in the army and was frequently selected by his commanding officers to fill positions requiring great skill and courage. He was in action in almost every battle during the campaign of East Tennessee. He was with the army of General Sherman in that unique and most memorable campaign, his “March to the Sea”; he participated in all of its battles, and when Atlanta was taken Colonel Capron with men from his old regiment formed the advance guard of the Twentieth Corps, which drove the enemy's cavalry through the city. He was with General Stoneman when that officer was captured, but he, with three hundred brave men, cut their way through the enemy's lines, and after six days of fighting succeeded in reaching the lines of the Union army. Later he was with General Thomas and “rendered good service in the campaign against Gen. Hood.” Still later, “after the relief of Nashville,” he was obliged to offer his resignation because of disability.

He was in Washington for the purpose of attending the ceremonies of the dedication of the Washington Monument, when he took a severe cold. A very brief illness followed which terminated fatally, and he died at the “Portland,” in that city February 22, 1885. See *The National Tribune* for February 26, 1885.

THURGOOD BUT FOR MEMBERS OF THE MANN FAMILY. The last in this line of the second generation was Mrs. Dr. Richards, daughter of Mr. Josiah and Mary Mann Deane and granddaughter of Dr. Benjamin Mann. She died at North Attleborough but many years since at a very advanced age. Some of the above facts relating to her family were furnished by her to the *Gleaner*, and may be seen in its issue of November 13, 1873, and some of the others were found in the *Newport Mirror* of the October 16, 1877.

REV. JONATHAN MANCY, S.T.D., President of Rhode Island Union, and formerly J.S.C. colleague, was one of the most eminent pulpit orators of this country. He was born in this town September 2, 1768. He prepared for college in the school of Rev. William Williams, of Wrentham, which was then the most celebrated institution in the vicinity and the resort of a great many young men for the pursuit of classical studies and preparation for college.¹ He graduated at Brown University in 1787 and was immediately appointed a tutor. He was ordained pastor of the First Baptist Church in Providence, September 8, 1791, and at the same time was appointed the first Professor of Divinity in that college.² After the death of President Manning he was unanimously elected president, A.D. 1792, at the early age of twenty-four. He presided over this university for eleven years with distinguished success and with a splendid reputation for eloquence and learning. His administration was marked by mildness, urbanity, and dignity. Under his guardianship the university acquired a distinguished name for oratory. Guided by his fostering genius it sent forth a constellation of eloquent and accomplished speakers who have shone in various departments of public life, and whose eloquence has been felt in the pulpit, at the bar, and in the halls of legislation. Some of these have been mentioned in a former volume. He was peculiarly fitted to stamp impressions of his own character on the minds of those around him and to infuse his own spirit into theirs. He acquired a salutary influence over the youth committed to his charge. He imbued their hearts with a taste for literature and with a love of truth and moral beauty, and excited in their bosoms the most ardent aspirations after excellence. He knew well how to kindle and fan the flame of genius. His memory was cherished by all his pupils with peculiar affection and gratitude. In speaking of the university it has been truly said that he was one "whose name and fame are identified with its reputation, and whose mingled mildness, dignity, and goodness, equalled only by his genius, learning and eloquence, subdued all envy, made all admirers friends, and gave him an irresistible sway over the minds of those placed under his care."³

Though accomplished in every department of learning, he was distinguished

¹ *Chron. Record*, Vol. 1, p. 100; *Chron. Record*, Vol. 2, p. 400, 401.

² *Chron. Record*, Vol. 1, p. 100; *Chron. Record*, Vol. 2, p. 400, 401.

³ *Chron. Record*, Vol. 1, p. 100; *Chron. Record*, Vol. 2, p. 400, 401.

more particularly as a belles-lettres scholar. His oratory was in some respects peculiar. There was nothing in it like rant or affectation — no appearance of that popular declamation which is so often employed to captivate the multitude. There was apparently no attempt in it to produce effect — no labored display, but everything appeared easy, natural, and unstudied. It was deep, impassioned, but not declamatory. His voice was not naturally powerful, but he had it perfectly under his control through all its intonations. He usually commenced in a calm and moderate manner but grew warmer and more animated as he advanced in his discourse, and gradually and imperceptibly gained upon the attention and feelings of his hearers until every one present was wholly engrossed upon the subject of the speaker. Indeed, he himself seemed completely absorbed in his own subject, and by the influence of sympathy carried his audience with him.

His delivery was remarkably expressive. Every sentiment he uttered came from the heart and vibrated through his whole frame. Every cord and muscle was an echo to his soul. His elocution was full of grace, yet his *power* was not in this; it was in the life — the soul, which he infused into his voice, his gestures, and his countenance — all expressive and harmonious. His eloquence was at once graceful and forcible. In a word, he had in perfection what Demosthenes called *action*.

He did not neglect to cultivate the minor graces of elocution. He never made a prayer or delivered anything in public extempore, even on the most ordinary occasions, in which every sentence and every word were not accurately arranged and in their right place. Though his voice was naturally feeble it was able to occupy a large compass, and every word and every syllable he uttered in the largest audience fell distinctly on the ear of the most distant auditor.

The following extract will show the estimation in which he was held at the South. It was written but a short time previous to his death and contains a brief but lively description of the impressive effects of his eloquence, even when his powers were impaired by advancing age and feeble health: —

From the *Charleston City Gazette*. Extract of a letter from a gentleman residing in Columbia to his friend in Charleston.

COLUMBIA, 6th, July, 1849.

Last Sunday we went to hear Dr. Mayes. It being the 4th of July, it was a discourse appropriate to that eventful period. I had always been led to believe the Doctor an eloquent and impressive preacher; but had no idea, till now, that he possessed such transcendent powers. I never heard such a stream of eloquence. It flowed from his lips, even like the oil from Aaron's head. Every ear was delighted, every heart was gladdened, every bosom throbbled with gratitude. Such appropriate metaphors! such grand, such sublime descriptions! such exalted ideas of Deity! and delivered with all the grace, the force, the elegance of a youthful orator! I was sometimes in pain, lest this good old man should outdo himself, and become exhausted, but as he advanced in his discourse, he rose in animation, till at length he reached heights the most sublime, and again descended with the same facility with which he soared. So far as I can judge, (and your partiality, I know, will allow me to be no mean critic) there was not heard the slightest deviation from the most correct enunciation and enunciation.

arrangement of the pieces of my hand (relevant to his situation) is not, I think, I guess, hand position (in response to Dr. Wray's question) is all the pieces of my hand and so I can, I guess, come away with some sense, though the latter is only getting to very subtle things. I am persuaded I shall never understand anything that I do.

The Mayor's most celebrated performance, when he presided over Browe's funeral, regarded as a specimen of eighteenth-century, was his sermon on the *Existence and Attributes of God*, delivered at Providence in 1775, which was frequently recited at the end of nearly a half-century, and produced at the time the most lively and striking effect on the audience. Those who lived to never forget it. The impression it produced was the result of a great power of the command of its subjects. Such a brilliant effort of eloquence had seldom been witnessed in our part of public worship. This discourse, though enlivened by a bold, luxuriant, and brilliant imagination, and a loftiness of conception, is yet characterized by his usual neatness and simplicity of diction. Indeed, in his highest flights his style of writing was always remarkable for happy English above and a classical simplicity of language.

In fine, he was an eloquent orator and a learned scholar.

In 1801 he was honored with the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Harvard University.

In 1802 he resigned the presidency of Brown University and accepted that of Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., where he remained till the establishment of the new college in Columbia, S. C., in 1804, of which he was appointed the first president, and immediately removed to that place, where he continued till the day of his death, June 1, 1826, at the age of fifty-two. He was appointed to the office of president the youngest, and presided the longest in proportion to his years, of any person in this country. He was connected with some college, either as student or officer, nearly thirty-seven out of the fifty-two years of his life.

The following story is a yellow from a book of Dr. May, while he was in South Carolina —

[illegible]

The following description of the attack of the assassin, and picture given by witnesses, it has been thought to have the most accurate basis. The assassin, a man, dressed in civilian dress, the trousers and coat striped only. He sprang from under the counter behind the bar, and, making the assassin's entrance from the doorway opposite, ran straight on and threw his first and only missile, that of course missed the mark, from the left-hand to the right. He then turned to the right, and, having no other weapon, he threw the revolver into the air. The assassin, and by the same time, was startled by the sudden dropping of one of the glass panels, and the well-known voice of the

doctor himself thus addressing them: "So, so, young gentlemen, you are going to leave me in the woods, are you? Surely, as you have brought me hither for your own gratification, you will not refuse to take me back for mine. Come, Mr. ——— and ——— and ———, buckle to and let us return; it's getting late." There was no appeal; for the window was raised, and the doctor resumed his seat. Almost without a word the discomfited young gentlemen took their places at the pole and the back of the vehicle, and quite as expeditiously, if with less voice, did they retrace their steps. In silence they dragged the carriage into its wonted place, and then retreated precipitately to their rooms, to dream of the account they must render on the morrow. When they had retired, the doctor quietly vacated the carriage and went to his house, where he related the story to his family with much glee. He never called the heroes of that nocturnal expedition to an account, nor was the carriage ever afterward dragged at night into the woods.¹

Dr. Maxcy was the second president of Brown University, that ancient institution, one who reflected the highest lustre on the university at which he graduated and over which he presided while a mere youth. He was one of the most cherished ornaments of the religious denomination to which he belonged, and one of the most impressive, brilliant, and eloquent pulpit orators of the age in which he lived. No one has enjoyed a greater popularity; no one was ever more idolized by his contemporaries than he. As a teacher of the highest branches of moral philosophy he had no superior, and he produced a profound impression and influence on the pupils successively under his charge. His whole career was an honor to American scholarship.

His wife was Susan Hopkins, a daughter of Commodore Esek Hopkins, of Providence, by whom he had several daughters and four sons, all of whom were liberally educated. Several of the sons survived him and continued for many years in the profession of the law. His widow continued to live for some time after his death, in Columbia, S. C.

He published "A Discourse on the Death of President Manning," 1792; "A Sermon on the Existence of God, Demonstrated from the Works of Creation," 1795; "An Oration before the Providence Association of Mechanics and Manufacturers," 1795; "A Fourth of July Oration," 1795 and 1799; "A Discourse on the Atonement," in two parts, 1796; "A Dedication Sermon at Cumberland, R. I.," 1796; "A Sermon before the Warren Association," at Boston, 1797; "A Funeral Sermon before the Legislature of South Carolina," 1818; and numerous addresses, 1797, 1801, etc., to the graduating classes of Brown University. His discourses and addresses were collected and published in 1844 with a brief memoir of his life by Rev. Romeo Elton, late professor in Brown University.²

It requires an abler pen than mine to portray the amiable and brilliant character of Maxcy, and to do justice to his splendid talents as an orator. Those only who knew him in the meridian of life, and who had seen and felt

¹ From *Portland Daily Gazette* for April 22, 1878.

² Dr. Elton resided in England for a number of years, having married there. While in that country he published an edition of "Selections from Dr. Maxcy," which had an extensive circulation there. He presented a copy to Queen Victoria, who highly appreciated it, and, it is said, read one or two of the sermons to her children.

edge could be named into which he did not extend his inquiries, and with which he had not become so familiar as to enable him to hold an instructive conversation.

"Two distinguished lawyers of one of the middle States, after having incidentally held a protracted discussion with him on the law of entail (he being entirely unknown to them), came to the conclusion that he was probably a Judge in one of the higher Courts of the United States.

"Dr. Maxey supposed that with a proper training of the mind, most books might be gone through in a much shorter time than is usually devoted to them, and so a much greater amount of knowledge be obtained in a given period.

"His sermons were composed with the utmost rapidity, and yet when composed, they seemed to be graven on the tablet of his memory, as with a pen of iron and the point of a diamond. If he had occasion, as he sometimes had, to write out a discourse after he had delivered it, there would be found not only the same arrangement and the same general train of thought, but nearly all the same language.

"While Dr. Maxey was an excellent general scholar, he had made himself specially familiar with the branches which he was accustomed to teach. The manner in which the classes regarded his attainments in history may be illustrated by a remark which was made by one of the students in coming from the lecture-room, — namely, that he believed the doctrine of metempsychosis must be true, for, unless the President had himself, in some form, lived in Athens, when the events recorded in our lesson occurred, he never could have been so intimately acquainted with the characters and lives of the men, nor with the general tempers of the people he had been describing to us. This thorough knowledge of the various branches in his department, in connection with a remarkable facility of communication, rendered him an uncommonly interesting teacher.

"His questions were shaped in such a manner, as to save the student who had the least knowledge of the lesson, from the embarrassment consequent on an entire inability to answer, and at the same time, to leave the best informed with the conviction that there were other things connected with the subject, which it would be useful for them to learn. His mode of teaching was eminently adapted to promote the spirit of inquiry, and the students left the lecture-room, talking over the subject of the recitation, and, after reaching their rooms, often studied lessons more thoroughly than they had before they left them. A system of questions drawn up after his manner, would be an invaluable help to the youth of the present day, and, perhaps, not more valuable to the youth, than helpful to the great body of instructors.

"Dr. Maxey manifested much of a devotional spirit. His mind was eminently fruitful in serious and devout reflection. It was true of him in a spiritual sense, that, 'the cloud returned after the rain.' In his prayers there was always an emotion and impressiveness that left you without any doubt that the spirit was helping him. His manner in the pulpit was characterized by great simplicity, ease, and earnestness. His style of preaching altogether was eminently fitted to produce solemn reflection and deep self-communion, and thus lead to the best practical results. There was nothing, however, in his public performances, that was of a particularly exciting or agitating character. Everything was serene, symmetrical, impressive. He attempted to imitate no one, and caught no one's peculiarities. Destitute of all pretension, he was evidently just what his Creator intended he should be; and every one felt in listening to him, that if he were anything else than what he was, it would be at the expense of disobeying the impulses of his own nature.

"I cannot close this communication without saying that I have ever entertained a deep sense of my obligation to Dr. Maxey, — not only for the important instruction which I received from him, but for his watchful care over me at a period when 'dangers stand thick around us.' "

The following is from the pen of Tristram Burgess, who was one of his pupils and associates: —

It is not possible for me to produce a portrait of Jonathan Maxey, which shall do justice to the great original. I saw him as an instructor presiding over scientific and literary studies

He graduated under President Maxey, was afterwards professor of oratory in Brown University, a member of Congress, and finally a distinguished orator. From these two positions came forth the recollections of those who feel personal knowledge of Dr. Maxey, and so far as it is possible, relations with him.

and others, more especially because it is the production of a young man of twenty-five, who, from the dignified position of head of a collegiate institution of learning, addresses as counselor and adviser a body of men scarcely younger than himself : —

Charge delivered by President Maxcy to the graduates of the College, Rhode Island, September 4, 1793. — 2 Baptist Register, 557, 560.

Advice from the young appears like an intrusion on the rights of age and experience. It is not, therefore, without the most anxious concern that I rise to address you; especially when I consider the splendid abilities of those great men who, on similar occasions, have stood in this place. They needed not for an apology the admonition of Paul, " Let no man despise thy youth."

The attachment to which your conduct has given birth forbids me to let you depart without expressing my solicitude for your welfare. This day presents to you a new scene of things. It brings you from the retreats of science, and places you on the theatre of action. It commences your public existence. As the first impressions which your abilities and conduct will make on the minds of men will be *lasting*, it will be for your interest to be careful that they be *favorable*. Errors in conduct, when you are first thrown on the public eye, will be critically noted, and, of consequence, will create prejudices which, in any subsequent period of life, a knowledge of your abilities would prevent. Hence you cannot be too solicitous after the advice of aged, experienced men. You cannot be too anxious to know your duty, nor too active to perform it. A fear to do wrong and a desire to do right are brilliant traits in the character of the young. In the first part of life, when our passions are winged with fire, we are too apt to despise counsel, and to follow our own rash resolutions. Hence we unavoidably run into errors, because destitute of that knowledge which nothing but experience can give, and careless of those rules of life which nothing but the wisdom of age can form, and nothing but the rashness of youth would regret.

When you engage in the businesses of life you will have to deal with men. The ideas you have formed in retirement, of the manners of the world and the principles of human action, it is probable are very erroneous. Time and experience only can correct them. What is commonly called the knowledge of the world, of which so many boast, is nothing more than the acquirement of its deceitful manners and the practice of its polite vices. To travel many countries, to see many people, these are highly desirable; but these, without reflection, without deep study and accurate observation, instead of making a man of merit, will only make a splendid fop. You must learn to read men as well as books, but read books first. Human nature is a regular, though complicated machine. It can be learned by its operations only. Unless you know the springs by which it is moved, you can never manage it to advantage. He will gain his point most effectually and govern men best, who possesses such a ductility of disposition as will enable him to enter into the circumstances, to survey in a true light the interests, and to realize the feelings of others. In society you will be connected with men of different characters, dispositions and pursuits. You will find many ignorant and unreasonable, many who are well informed, and a few religious; but none who are not fond of applause and desirous of superiority. If you can get into your hand the hopes and fears of men, you can do as you please.

Perhaps the splendid abilities and extensive requirements of some may, on particular occasions, create a temporary discouragement, and deter you from that proficiency which could render you useful, though it might not gratify your ambition. But you will do well to remember that true greatness and real excellency consist neither in the excessive splendor, nor in the occasional displays of genius. Men whose souls are winged with lightning are ever soaring above the sphere of useful employment. The fierce ardor of their spirit disdains attention to

* "Late of Manning," etc., and it was not known to have been ever before published in this country. It was presented to the journal for publication by "I. M." — a young priest, at that time one of the oldest living pupils of President Maxcy — a great scholar — and among the select living graduates of "Brown."

natures. This you cannot violate without an essential injury to yourselves. No man can hurt another without hurting himself at the same time.

Do good to all, for by so doing you will do the greatest good to yourselves. Pursue a uniform course of virtuous conduct. This will unavoidably lead you to eminence. In such a country as this true merit cannot fail to distinguish you: for, like the sun, it will always carry its own light with it.

Time now requires me to part with you. I sincerely wish you much happiness, and shall rejoice to find that you are useful and ornamental to your country.

VIRGIL MAXCY was a younger brother of Dr. Maxcy, and was born in this town. He graduated at Brown University in September, 1804, and was for a while tutor in a private family at the South. He studied law in Baltimore, and settled in Anne Arundel County, near there, and became distinguished in his profession as an advocate. He was appointed *Chargé d'Affaires* to Belgium in 1835, which position he held for a number of years. After his return home he was appointed Solicitor of the United States Treasury. While attending the excursion on board the United States steamship Princeton, February 28, 1844, with President Tyler, Judge Upshur, and other members of the Cabinet, he was instantly killed by the terrible explosion of the guns which occurred at that time.

He was a brilliant speaker and an able jurist. He left two daughters, married, in Washington. He delivered an eloquent address before the Phi Beta Kappa Society of Brown University, September 4, 1833, which was published.

HON. ELISHA MAY was a distinguished citizen of this town who was often employed in public office, and whose name was always held in reverence by those who knew or remembered him. The records of the May family extend back to 1590, in which year one John May was born in Meyfield, England. About the year 1631 he came to this country, bringing with him two sons, John and Samuel, and they settled in Roxbury and Dorchester. The elder son, John, had eight children, of whom the seventh was named Elisha, and was born in 1669. This Elisha May left the family at Dorchester and went to Swansea with a brother. His son lived in that place and finally came from there to this town, bringing with him his son Elisha, the subject of this sketch, who was born in 1729.

Courteous and gentlemanly in his manners, and honorable and upright in his principles, he was universally esteemed. Intelligent and active in business, he was well qualified to fulfill the various offices to which he was elected. He discharged the various duties which devolved upon him with ability, and entire satisfaction to his constituents. He was elected to the Legislature over twenty times between 1778 and 1803, during the last thirteen years, consecutively, being a member of the Upper House. He was also several times chosen a member of the Provincial Congress at Watertown, and was at one time chosen a presidential elector. He was, in fine, one of the most valuable citizens of this town. He died November 15, 1811, in the eighty-

third year of his age. His wife was Ruth Metcalf, of Cornwall. His character is justly though briefly described by one who was personally acquainted with him. The following extract is from a discourse delivered at his interment by the Rev. John Wilder, then the pastor of the First Congregational Church in this town:

"His name will long be precious, not only to his own relatives and friends, but likewise to his intimate acquaintances, to his neighbors, to the religious society in this place, and to the inhabitants of the town. For he is the man whom his fellow-citizens have dedicated to honor; one who is unworthy their respect and confidence. For blessed with a sound mind, a retentive memory, a quick discernment of men and things, a polite address, an unfeigned faith, and an attentive consideration, he was singularly qualified for public employment of various kinds. And his worth was early discovered; for at the time of the Revolutionary War he was an active and useful member both in the military and civil departments. Since that period he was employed, without opposition, as a legislator, or a counsellor, until he chose to retire. For about twenty-seven years in succession, one excepted, he was called to a seat in the Legislature, and chiefly in the upper house. For almost forty years together he has been moderator of the town meetings in this place; in which office he was equaled by few, and exceeded by none. He had the honor of being an elector of the President of the United States. As a magistrate throughout the Commonwealth, he did much business, and to very general satisfaction. He was justly celebrated both at home and abroad, for his wisdom in adjusting and settling differences between contending parties. As a politician he was a friend and disciple of Washington. As a man he was prepossessing and engaging. As a friend he was faithful and constant. As a neighbor he was kind and obliging. As a husband he was attentive and tender. As a parent he was pleasant and affectionate. As to his religion, he was a firm believer in the Christian system, and a very constant, attentive, and apparently devout attender on public worship all his life."

JOHN WILDER MAY was born in this town, January 23, 1817. He was the son of Hon. Lemuel May and Esther Wilder May, daughter of Rev. John Wilder, pastor of the First Church here, and grandson of Hon. Elisha May. His father was a prominent public man, having held the various town offices, and he was for several years a representative in the Legislature, a member of the Senate and of the Governor's Council.

John Wilder May was educated for college at Andover and graduated at the University of Vermont, in Burlington. He and a classmate, after leaving college, undertook farming for a year or two as an experiment, but they soon abandoned the pursuit to prepare for a professional life. Mr. May kept school for two or three seasons in his native village and then commenced the

study of the law with Francis Hilliard, Esq., of Roxbury, which was at that time a part of Norfolk County. At Roxbury he later entered into partnership with a lawyer, continuing for several years, until he was elected "District Attorney for Suffolk County." This office he held for six years, discharging its duties with fidelity and vigor. On the resignation of Judge Chamberlain he was appointed "Chief Justice of the Municipal Court of Boston." He discharged the official duties of this laborious position with unquestioned integrity, impartiality, and good judgment. This office he held at the time of his death.

No man can put his hand upon any official act of Judge May's which can in any way impeach or sully his judicial purity. At the memorial services held after his death his memory was highly honored and his character duly appreciated by the Suffolk County Bar. His character and life present an example for the imitation of the young and aspiring.

While in practice at Roxbury he was appointed solicitor for that city and held the office for several years. He represented that city in the Legislature in 1867. After the annexation of Roxbury to Boston he formed a law partnership with Charles W. Story, Esq., which was dissolved in 1869, when Mr. May was elected "District Attorney for Suffolk." He died January 11, 1883, sixty-four years of age.¹

"Judge May was a man of learning, ability, and the highest integrity and honor. He was laborious in the discharge of his duties, and died with the respect of the public for the sincerity and purity of his life and official character."

He married Elizabeth Thurston Farnham, of Bangor, Maine, by whom he had four children: Henry Farnham May, now a lawyer in Boston; Harriet Wilder May, who is associate treasurer of the Woman's Board of Missions in that city; John Lemuel and Elizabeth Farnham May, who all survive their parents.

I quote the "Resolution of the Suffolk Bar" at their memorial services on his death, which was offered by his former partner, Mr. Story, and unanimously adopted and which, from my personal knowledge of Judge May, I endorse, as embodying his professional character:—

Resolved, That in the death of John Wilder May, we recognize a serious loss to the community of which he was a most useful and valued servant, and to the Bar so long an honored member. He was a genuine man, of a high and noble nature, frank, upright, independent, simple, pure, cheerful, benevolent. His conversation was rare, instructive, and from the clearness and vigor of his conceptions most epigrammatic. His written works displayed not only mastery of language, but thoroughness of research, and remarkable power of statement. In the Councils of the Commonwealth, and of the city, he was conspicuous for solidity of understanding, strength in argument, and readiness in debate. Professionally, he was learned, able, and faithful, not aggressive, but in resisting aggression prompt and determined. In his capacity

¹ He had one brother, who died some years before his death, an Uncle, Seth May, who was a judge of the Superior Court of Maine many years.

accomplished, liberal, and benevolent, temperate, and efficient, and in a vigorous manner of the different occupations and traveling duties, he was eminently well adapted, and well calculated. He had a great command of English, and had been educated in the best way known at present.

His candid and strict deal for his clients and, in a "manly, straight-forward way," brought out every issue to its end. He was more than an occasional lecturer for history, denoting some things a disservice to himself and his profession. He was especially kind to young men entering the profession of law, and resorted to young men whom he must judge for their first behind-scenes. One said to him that "for thirty years he had known and admired that Judge May's character was such as to impress itself upon the community, so that men who never saw him had a positive conviction that he was an upright, fearless and honest man who could well fill any position to which he might be called." Another, after words of high praise, said an appropriate epitaph for his tombstone would be, "A sound lawyer, a frank and a true man without cant or hypocrisy, a pure, conscientious, upright and incorruptible Judge."

SAMUEL BARCLAY PARKS was among the former physicians of this town, a gentle man who settled here in 1822. He was great-grandson of Rev. Moses Parks, of Marshfield, Plymouth County, and Julia Drew, of Kingston, an adjoining town and was born in the former town, January 30, 1806. He graduated at Brown University in 1821, at which institution his father had also graduated. He was a well-read and accomplished scholar and a young man of great promise. He studied medicine under the tuition of Dr. Paul L. Nichols, of Kingston, with whom he remained one year, and afterwards he spent about two years under the instruction of Dr. Samuel Bugbee, a distinguished and skilful physician of Wrentham. He then finished his professional education at the Harvard Medical School, where he received his degree on August 31, 1831, and returned to his home.

He soon settled in this town, at the Falls, and at the residence of Dr. Thomas Strong (also deceased). From his death September 21, 1837, and twenty-one years, seven months, and twenty-two days, and thus all his attainments in literature, poetry, and professional science, with all the brilliant prospects of his life, were buried in an untimely grave. He was buried in the old cemetery on the site of the Central Church, but his remains were afterwards removed, by direction of his father, to Kingston. Abundant eulogies upon his character were tendered to his father after his death by those who knew him best. Dr. Bugbee, in whose family he remained so long as a student, said of him: "In our family he was profoundly loved by all. The immense stores of intellectual treasure which he had accumulated, and assorted for use, distanced, in my estimation, from all his equals in age, with whom I have ever had the fortune to be acquainted."

I have had much to do for supplying the vacant day among friends in the



1. Episcopal Church, 2. Episcopal Church, 3. Episcopal Church, 4. Episcopal Church, 5. Episcopal Church, 6. Episcopal Church, 7. Episcopal Church.
 (L. A. T. & C. Co.)

essay on the "Remains of Henry Kirke White." He says: "His feelings appear to have been occasionally subjected to higher degrees of excitement, than human nature could endure with impunity. He lived much in a short time, and hence perhaps one reason why the resources of life were so soon exhausted. In him were united genius and application. Both contributed to give him an early niche in the temple of fame; both contributed to give him an early shroud in the mansions of the tomb."

Dr. Parris' "Remains," including selections from his poems and essays, were published after his death, by the author of this work, for circulation among his friends.

In Kettell's "Specimens of American Poets" the compiler has given a poem of Dr. Parris on a "Sprig of Juniper from the Tomb of Washington." I will give here a humorous one on the fall of a woodpile:—

Lines Commemorative of the Downfall of My Woodpile.¹

I was piling a great heap of wood,
And I nearly had finished my labours,
And it stood up, all handsome and good,
A source of surprise to the neighbours,
With joy I looked on it — poor dunce!
When but a few armfuls were lacking,
When, alas! the whole pile all at once
Came down with a terrible cracking,
My armful I dropped on the ground,
And gazed on the ruins astonished —
When, lo! a most wonderful sound,
My glaring imprudence admonished.
My genius, who stands at the helm,
And guides me with counsels sagacious,
Spoke out from the top of the elm,
With a countenance smiling and gracious,
"My friend," she exclaimed with a smile,
"While to work you so ardently press on,
The sad overthrow of your pile
May teach you a very good lesson.
Reflect on your blunders with care —
And if these admonitions should reach you,
You will find it is better by far,
Than for fatal experience to teach you.
Remember, as long as you live,
That to ardent and high expectation,
You should not much confidence give,
When it rests on a slender foundation.
If such hope you should build up too high,
No matter how much you may prize it,
The very first gust, that comes by,
Will always be sure to *upset* it."

¹Written in December, 1826, at the age of twenty.

formed the operation, and declined to receive any compensation whatever. Upon the advent of twin boys into this family some time later the grateful wife and mother bestowed the name of Samuel upon one of the infants and Robinson upon the other in honor of the benefactor.

While in North Carolina Dr. Robinson's health failed, and he tried constant and continued change of air and scene in the hope of benefiting it. He traveled quite extensively through the Carolinas, Virginia, the Middle and New England States. He finally came to Pawtucket and Providence, in the vicinity of which places he for a time took up his residence. His health continuing broken, he was not able to follow his profession, and he devoted much time to the study of geology and mineralogy.

He made a collection of minerals, many of them being quite valuable, and in 1825 he published a work entitled "A Catalogue of American Minerals." This was an octavo volume of three hundred and sixteen pages. It contained a full list of all the minerals then known in the United States and British Provinces. With each one the county, town, and neighborhood where it was found to exist were distinctly marked, and the book was thus an excellent guide to any practical geologist.

Dr. Robinson resided in various places in this vicinity, as has been stated, though his home was with his brother, Mr. Dan Robinson, in this town. At the end of some two or three years after his return to the North, on the approach of cold weather, he found it necessary to go to a warmer climate. He went therefore to St. Augustine, Fla., where he died after a few months' residence, February 17, 1827, in the forty-fourth year of his age.¹

It is proper that some notice should be taken of two natives of the town, who distinguished themselves in a former generation as singers, teachers, and composers of music, and compilers of musical works, and who were well known in their day. They were sons of Daniel and Mary Read, and were descended from a family long settled here in the south part of the town, that part still known as "the Read and Ide neighborhood."

JOEL READ was born August 16, 1753. He was well educated for that age, well informed on general subjects, and well known to his townspeople of the age which has recently passed away. He was for a long time in public life, taking an active part in the affairs of the town. His services were often secured in the offices of selectman, assessor, treasurer, etc., and his handwriting may be found on many pages of the public records. He lived on a farm — the old homestead of his family — as an agriculturist, but much of his time was occupied in other pursuits. He was a surveyor and conveyancer, and acted as a magistrate for a long period. He also represented the town in the Legislature for some years, from 1806 to 1813 inclusive, with the

¹ His gravestone there has recently been seen by a resident of Attleborough. "The inscription includes a tribute to him as a man and Christian and physician." *Attleboro Advocate*.

exception of 1806. He served for a time in the Revolutionary War, and was wounded in one of the battles near New York.

He devoted from this time onwards the close of his life, and resided in Putnam for a number of years. He finally returned to his native place, where he died January 27, 1857, upwards of eighty-four years of age. He was twice married. His first wife was Chloe, daughter of Deacon Jonathan Stanley, of this town; by whom he had nine children, five daughters and four sons, most of whom lived to maturity. In his father's family there were eleven children, all of whom lived to adult years.

But Joel Read was best known as a musician. He took the lead of the choir in the church at West Atholborough from early life till age indisposed him for the duties. In his intercourse with the public he was pleasant and agreeable in his manners, a gentleman and social. I am told by those who knew him that he was a singer of the most well-trained voice. He was an enthusiast on the subject of music. In the winter season during the active part of his life he was engaged in teaching common schools during the day and singing schools in the evening, not only in this, but in the neighboring towns—in the western part of this State, and in various towns also in the State of New York. While introducing his works to the public he often extended his excursions to the remote settlements of that State.

He was a composer of music—the author of several popular tunes which were published. In 1806 he published a collection of sacred music for the use of churches and schools, under the title of "The American Singing Book, or a New and Easy Guide to Psalmody." The work passed through at least two editions—and probably several more—during the lifetime of the compiler, and was extensively circulated, and used by singing schools and church choirs in this vicinity. In fact, it was the only work of the kind known here for many years, and educated a whole generation of singers. It contained many tunes composed by his brother Daniel, and he himself was the author of several of them, which were well known at the time and highly popular. Among them were Consolation and others.

The first edition, as stated, was published in 1806, the second in 1812. In the second edition he changed the title and called it "The New England Singsong, or Psalmody." It was printed in Boston by Muzzey & Loring. In the preface he says: "The first edition met with a rapid sale and encourages him to publish the second, which he trusts is not inferior in point of merit, and hopes it will meet the general approbation of the public." This work was used almost exclusively for more than thirty years in this vicinity, in Worcester County, in the more western part of this State, in various parts of New York, and doubtless in many other places.

DANIEL READ, a younger brother of Joel Read, was born here November 18, 1757. He was in Sullivan's Expedition to Rhode Island in 1778 during

the Revolution, in the ranks of the regiment from the northern part of this county. Before the close of the Revolutionary War he removed to New Haven, Conn., where he settled for life. Here he formed a partnership with Amos Doolittle, an engraver, under the firm name of Doolittle & Read, and engaged in trade, principally a bookselling and publishing business.

Among other works published by them was a Musical Magazine, a periodical which appeared monthly. The typographical execution of the work was, for that age, highly creditable to the publishers and its appearance was even beautiful. This was probably the first periodical on music published in the country, at least the first known to the author. A great number of the musical compositions were originally composed by Read himself. Many of the most approved tunes were afterwards collected and published in a single volume called *The American Singing Book*, the fourth edition of which was issued January 24, 1792. It acquired a good reputation and secured an extensive circulation in the New England States. It included forty-seven original tunes by Mr. Read, with a supplement containing five more. In 1793 he published the *Columbian Harmonist* in three parts.

The musical compositions of Daniel Read were far more numerous than those of Joel and of an earlier date. In the *Federal Harmony* (Second Part), published in 1792, are six pieces by Read; the *Worcester Collection of Sacred Harmony*, 1788, contained sixteen pieces; the *Village Harmony*, published in Exeter, N. H., has nineteen; and in Lowell Mason's Collection may be found several tunes by him. A third brother, William, was also a teacher of psalmody in both Attleborough and Pawtucket and a composer of music, but not to such an extent as the others.

The best evidence of the merit of the compositions of the Read Brothers is in the fact that so many of them were selected and republished in subsequent collections of music for church choirs. Many of these tunes are in use at the present day. The names of *Lisbon* and *Sherburne* and *Calvary*, of *Greenwich* and *Judgment*, of *Exaltation* and *Victory*, of *Winter* and *Windham* are familiar as household words to our own generation of church singers, and some at least of these tunes are found in almost every collection of sacred music.

Daniel Read married, in New Haven, Mary Sherman, one of that family so distinguished in Connecticut. Their four children were George Frederic; Handel, who lived to quite an advanced age; Nathan Sherman Read, who became a clergyman; and one daughter, Mary White Read, who married Jonathan Nicholson. A son of the youngest brother, William, above mentioned, went also to New Haven, and descendants of the families are residing in that city at the present time. Daniel Read died in 1836, in the eightieth year of his age. Many descendants of these Reads are also living in this town.

WILLIAM STILLMAN STANLEY, M.D., was born in this town, January 17, 1803. His father was Dr. Thomas Stanley, of the Falls village; his mother,

Mary Norton, sister of this town, and they were married by Rev. Dr. Gannett. His grandfather was William Searcy, who married Zilpah, daughter of Captain Stephen Tenney. He attended the classical academy in West Attleborough kept by Rev. Joseph Wheaton, of Remond, and was then fitted for college. He graduated at Brown University in the class of 1820. He studied medicine with Dr. Fisher Parsons, of Providence, and acquired a practical knowledge. He has conferred with Dr. Harkness, of Mansfield, entering into partnership with him and remaining so associated for two years. At the end of that time, 1822, an epidemic occurred at Mansfield, Worcester County, N. Y., to which place he removed and speedily became a large and lucrative physician. He was eminently respectable and prosperous, and continued in that place in full practice for the long period of forty-seven years.

In 1850, his health having failed, he removed to Warrington, Del., and two years later to Philadelphia, Penn., where he lived until 1883. During that year he removed to Westbury, R. I., where he had his residence during the remainder of his life. In June of the foregoing year, 1884, he attended the Commencement exercises of his loved university, and from Providence he came to his native town and visited his old homestead, greeting once more the few living relatives and very few living friends of his youthful days. From here he went to Westbury to visit some friends residing there, and while with them was taken ill and died after only four days of sickness, on July 11, 1884. "Thus suddenly ended the life of a good man."

In May, 1832, Dr. Stanley was married to Elizabeth Thompson Mitchell, of White Plains, N. Y., who died at Germantown, Penn., August 18, 1883. He left no children. He was a man of integrity in all his dealings with his fellow-men, familiar and cordial in his intercourse with his friends and neighbors, and he enjoyed the confidence of the community in which he lived.

The following is quoted from the Necrology of Brown University for 1884-85:—

"In his medical profession, as in his character, he was the worthy son of a worthy sire, his father, Dr. Thomas Stanley, having been for many years a prominent physician, and highly esteemed man in Attleborough. Dr. Stanley, the subject of this notice, had the esteem and confidence of the people, not only of his own town, where he so long lived, but for many miles around in other towns. His urbanity of manners, and kindness of heart, united with his clearness of intellect, and his medical knowledge and skill, rendered him both a popular and a successful physician."

DR. HENRY BATHURST, M.D., of East and Hyde Park, BOSTON, was born in Great Britain, November 18, 1803. He resided in the country home until he married his first wife. At that time he was fitted for college and entered Brown University, where he graduated in 1824 at the age of twenty. He obtained his medical education at the excellent school of Harvard, taking his

degree in 1827. He thus by thorough courses of study laid the foundation of true knowledge so especially needed in his profession, and made himself worthy of the confidence of his fellow-men and of the success which afterwards attended him.

He practised during many of his earlier years in Pawtucket, where he was associated with Dr. Manchester. While there he united with the Congregational church, of which Rev. Dr. Blodgett was for so many years the loved and revered pastor, and became one of its deacons, retaining the office as long as he resided in that place. He remained in Pawtucket until 1837, when failing health compelled him to try change of scene and climate, and for a time he resided at the West. The weakness from which he suffered proved to be only temporary, his constitution being strong enough to conquer it, and he was able to resume his professional duties. In 1840 he returned to Pawtucket, but soon after removed to Providence, where he resided for more than thirty-two years "laboriously occupied nearly to the end." He died in that city October 11, 1882, having reached the advanced age of almost fourscore years. He married, February 5, 1833, Frances A., daughter of Oliver Bartlett, of Smithfield, R. I., and she, with two sons and two daughters, survives him.

His pastor said of him: "Dr. Barrows illustrated the truth that busy men may be relied on for many kinds of service, and that even in so arduous a profession there is time for Christian work and fellowship." He was "a man of integrity and consistent life. He loved his profession, and was conscientiously devoted to it. Yet whenever it was possible for him, he was an attendant at public worship. I have thought proper to dwell upon some simple facts in the history of our departed brother, not merely because of his sincere piety and excellence, but because of his vocation in life. The calling of a physician is one of great responsibility. It demands rare talents and the highest character. No one would wish to employ a physician who does not possess both, and no one has a right to trifle with life, by seeking counsel of the ignorant or the unprincipled. I may say that our friend, Dr. Barrows, though not lavish of words, and most unobtrusive in his demeanor, has brought spiritual comfort into the sick chamber, and helped others by his prayers in their sore need. In him religion was an everyday principle, which he was ready to apply to all the business of life. Nor should I fail to mention his kindness to the poor, and readiness to fulfill services often unpaid. We do well to cherish the memory of those who have served God in a laborious and self-denying profession, which ought to be held in high esteem, and to which we ought cheerfully to discharge our obligations as far as possible."

Dr. GEORGE BARROWS, a younger brother of the above, was born May 12, 1815. The father, who was a farmer, died while he was a child. Afterwards his mother married Captain Jacob Ide, and he lived in this new home

until he was sixteen. At that time he entered a store, and subsequently attended Putnam's Academy for two years. He was desirous of obtaining a good education, but, being out of health, he was unable to pursue his studies properly. At this juncture he went to Otterlin, Ohio, and entered the manual labor school there. During a few months in that institution, he developed a physical organization which carried him in after life through the constant strain and wear arising from the indispensable demands of his arduous profession. As a proof of the good results in his case of a system of labor and study combined, it is said of him that he volunteered with other regular fellow students to cut a large part of the timber which was used in the erection of two of the present college buildings.

He entered Amherst College when twenty-one, and graduated there in 1840. He spent two years in Illinois, and then entered his brother's office, where he remained three years studying medicine. He also attended lectures at Pittsfield Medical College, and there received his diploma. About this time he became interested in homeopathy, and finally adopted that school of practice. In 1846 he opened an office in Taunton, the only physician of his school there at that time. After practicing for some years he attended the Hahnemannian Medical College in Philadelphia and received a diploma from that institution. During a period of more than thirty years he went in and out of hundreds of homes in the city of his adoption, "administering to the best of his ability and skill for the wants of his patients, to the poor and indigent as to the more favored. All received his large-hearted sympathy." He gave instruction also to a large number of students, upon whom in the commencement of their practice he bestowed kindly and timely aid, and a number of young men were associated with him.

In 1848 he married Jane E. Wells, of Otis, by whom he had one son. They both survived him. He died January 19, 1878, from paralysis, the result of exposure on a protracted journey of several miles between a stormy night. He was at the time of his death the ablest medical practitioner in Taunton. One said of him: "The community in which he has long resided mourn the loss of a kind friend, neighbor, physician, and estimable fellow citizen, who has suddenly departed in the prime of life, and in the midst of usefulness." His pastor, Dr. Blake, said: "A Christian physician, whose principles flow into his profession, is a blessing to the community, which we do not appreciate until it is removed."

HON. EMBEZER DAGGETT, who died while a member of the Senate from Bristol District, affords the example of a life worthy of imitation by his fellow-citizens. He was the youngest son of Colonel John Daggett, whose life has been previously noticed, and was born April 16, 1763. Few men in this generation occupied so large a portion of their time in the public service. He held a commission of the peace for nearly thirty years, and honorably discharged its most important duties. He served the town at various times

in the capacity of selectman and town clerk, for upwards of twenty years. He represented the town several years in the General Court. A large part of the last thirty years of his life was occupied in some public employment. In various ways he rendered himself serviceable to his fellow-citizens. In the spring of 1831 he was elected a member of the Senate from this district. At the succeeding November election he was rechosen to the same office, and while in the discharge of the honorable and responsible duties of this station he was called by the order of Providence to close his life, at Boston, on the fourth of March, 1832, in the sixty-ninth year of his age.

Possessed of natural abilities above mediocrity, which he had improved by self-education, he always directed them to useful purposes. Plain and unassuming in his manners, mild and uniform in his disposition, he had won the confidence of his fellow-citizens, but never sought after the honors which were bestowed upon him. Guided by fixed and pure principles, he was upright and honorable in all his dealings with his fellow-men; and preserved a character of unsullied integrity through a long and active life. He was regarded by his neighbors as their father and adviser. If they were in difficulty or doubt, they came to him for counsel and assistance, and both were freely offered. So great was their confidence in his integrity and judgment that he was generally the chosen umpire in cases of controversies between his fellow-citizens. He was, in fine, in the true and enlarged sense of the word, a *useful* man. His life, indeed, as has been justly remarked of him, affords an encouraging example of the truth that respectable talents united with integrity and industry will raise a man to honor and usefulness.

He was, too, a kind-hearted and liberal man, and in this connection a pleasant fact was recently told of him by a son of Elder Read, at one time pastor of the Baptist church at North Attleborough: "Mr. Daggett was an intimate friend of my father's, and with his wife frequently visited him. He never went away without leaving some money, generally three dollars, and placed quietly under a book." Such was the manner of Mr. Daggett's giving — in that true spirit of charity which possesses only the desire to help those in need, not "to be seen of men," and shows a just and thoughtful consideration for the feelings of those assisted.

The following remarks on the character of the deceased are extracted from a funeral discourse delivered at Attleborough, April 22, 1832, by Rev. Mr. Ferguson: —

"Where is that venerated husband and father, that highly esteemed and useful citizen, who scarce four months ago, stood bending under the bereavement of Providence, an unexpected, yet quiet and submissive mourner in the house of the Lord. Alas! he has gone down to the grave unto his son, mourning. The last opportunity which I enjoyed of conversing with our

departed friend, and at the cost of his leaving home to attend to his official duties in the Legislature, as a member of the Senate. I mention this circumstance, because it was then abundantly evident, that those official business, which are generally sought as the means of successful accumulation, are soon to be regarded as a burden rather than as a honorable distinction. During our conversation he lamented, that official duties obliged him at such a time to leave home, and he intimated, seemed so foreign to the state of his mind. He regretted that the duties of his people had not fallen upon some other shoulders, and remarked, that such scenes were better selected to gratify those who were young and aspiring, than the aged and afflicted. It is known to you all, that from that time of day, he never returned. To an observer it must have been evident, that he came with his own heart — to mingle his sympathies with those of his family, and to prepare himself for his own great struggle, which would have been more congenial to his mind, than the duties of legislation, and the investigation of our political relations. In his case, moreover, political employments had long ceased to be a novelty. He was essentially a public man. Twenty years of his life had been occupied in superintending the interests of the town. Twice he was elected to the Senate; — and perhaps no man living or had been more often called to administer upon the estates of the deceased and to act as the guardian of the orphan. The general character which he sustained through life was that of uniformity, uprightness, and moderation. In the hottest strife of parties, although a public and a decided man, he never could be regarded as a partisan. He had been an actor, and in some respects a public character from the time of the Revolution; but through all the changes of the eventful times in which he lived, he continued to the last to stand forth before his fellow-citizens, in the character of an honest, upright, and consistent man.

His last request was made on the twenty-third of February. The day before, in apparent health, attended the centennial celebration of the birth of Washington, and walked in procession with the other members of the Senate; but all beyond was his dying sickness. Early on the succeeding morning, he was violently attacked with a fever, which terminated in death on the fourth of March.

"I have felt it my duty, in view of his public character, to enter into details which, in other circumstances, might have been inexpedient. In the relations of life; in his intercourse between man and man; in the maintenance of a character for uniformity, uprightness, and self-possession, his works praise him, and he is with us for an example. In all that is beyond, it is ours to consign him to his grave, and to his God. Happy would it be for our community, were our party divisions always controlled by men of equal mildness and moderation, — happy would it be for our community, did all our public men manifest an equal regard for the maintenance of order, morals, and religion."

Mr. Daggett married, September 3, 1797, Sally Maxey, of this town. They had twelve children, eight of whom lived to maturity: Lydia Maxey, born October 16, 1802, married Capron Peck, of this town, and died February 2, 1882; John, the writer of this book; Ebenezer, born May 14, 1807, and lost as his ship was coming into Boston Harbor in 1831; Harvey Maxey, born June 10, 1809, and died September 28, 1886; Amy Ide, born November 24, 1811, married John McClellan, of Sutton, this State, and now resides in Worcester; Macey Shepard, married Erastus D. Everett, of Boston, and died November 23, 1843, aged twenty-nine years and ten months; and Handel Naphtali and Homer Micajah, twins, born January 27, 1821.

REV. JACOB IDE, D.D., was a descendant of Nicholas Ide, — the immigrant ancestor, — who came to this country previous to 1645 and settled in Rehoboth as early as April 9 of that year. His son, Lieutenant Nicholas Ide, came to this town about 1696, with seven children, of whom one was named Jacob. The subject of this sketch was the fifth of the same name in direct descent. He was born March 29, 1785, in the south part of the town, the "Read and Ide neighborhood." His mother was a daughter of Elijah Kent, of Rehoboth, a descendant of one of the early settlers of that ancient town. His father was a farmer, as his ancestors had been ever since their coming to this country. He himself worked on his father's farm till he entered college. At an early age he became anxious to obtain a liberal education in order to qualify himself for the ministry. His father did not encourage him much in his desire, for, limited by the necessity for rigid economy, he had not the means to furnish his son with many facilities for preparing himself for college. The boy therefore resorted to many self-denials and laborious means to acquire the necessary preparation. He improved every opportunity to study at home, employing every spare hour, every leisure moment he could gain from the farm labors, and in that way did much toward fitting himself for entering the university. He says himself he "rose up early in the morning, and sat up late at night," to gain time for study. He traveled three or four times a week to the residence of Rev. Nathan Holman—a distance of about four miles from his home—for instruction in the languages, following this course for a year, and this was his only outside means of preparation. That he could endure such a mental and physical strain in addition to his daily work proves the truth of the statement that "he had an exceptionally good constitution, and was a model of strength and vigor."

At this time he was the athlete of his neighborhood and various incidents have been related by himself and others regarding his strength and skill. It is said his father had at one time an exceedingly wild and vicious colt, whom no one could manage. Young Ide quietly took the matter in hand, mounted the colt, who at once began kicking, rearing, and plunging in mad attempts to throw the fearless rider, who, however, stoutly maintained his seat until the animal, "wearied and discouraged with his unavailing efforts, succumbed."

completely satisfied. Tradition further says that upon one occasion, when the sudden illness of his father required a physician to be speedily summoned, Jacob mounted his same steed and, "instead of following the cautious course of the road, took to the fields," and leaped the fences, drawing a "bar line" in the doctor's foot. This determination to fall over, not to go around, difficulties was the keynote of his success in whatever he undertook and enabled him to overcome obstacles in his early career which would have utterly discouraged a boy of less resolute character than himself. The anxieties and struggles over "ways and means" were not in his case so great disadvantages as they might have been to many others. He studied thoroughly his tasks, he aimed to be accurate in everything he studied, his mind was clear and vigorous, and he was persevering and devoted to the duties of the moment. Hence he became in after life a close student and a deep thinker.

He entered Brown University in 1805, at the age of twenty, graduating in 1809, with the highest honors of his class. He studied theology for a time with his future father-in-law, Dr. Nathaniel Emmons, and then entered the theological school at Andover, where he graduated 1812. He preached for a time at East Abington, Mass., and at York, Maine, and then at Portsmouth, N. H. Here, though discouraged over himself and distrusting his own abilities as a preacher, he attracted the favorable notice of Daniel Webster, who heard him several times, and who, it is said, "used sometimes to rise and stand during the sermon, keeping his large eyes fixed upon the preacher."

From Portsmouth Mr. Lee came to Boston and was assistant for Dr. Griffin for a few weeks. About this time his health failed and he was obliged to cease all labor, and there was considerable uncertainty as to whether he would ever again be able to preach. In two years' time, however, he was so far recovered that he accepted a call from the church and society in West Medway, this State. He was ordained and installed there November 2, 1814, and this became his first and last pastorate. For fifty-one years he discharged all the duties of pastor, but in 1865 he was relieved of ministerial responsibility, though continuing senior pastor until his death.

In 1815 he married Mary, youngest daughter of Dr. Emmons, of Frankfort, Kentucky. So very many of these different paragraphs were a most happy complement to his character, and a continued source of inspiration to him. "Each home was a fountain of Christian exhortation, and a place of large and generous hospitalities." For more than sixty years they lived and worked together. They had eleven children, nine of whom died before the father's decease. Two sons survived him. Of these Jacob, Jr., a graduate of Amherst College, is now, as he has been for many years, the genial, popular, and acceptable pastor of the Congregational church at Mansfield Centre. All who in any way come under his influence must agree that a generous portion of his father's mantle has fallen upon him. The

second son, Alexis W., also entered the university, and at one time had a pastorate at Stafford Springs, Conn., but for a number of years previous to his father's death he refused all offers of settlement, that he might devote himself to the care of his parents in their old age. The daughter who reached maturity, Mary, became the wife of Rev. Charles T. Torrey, of Scituate. For assisting fugitive slaves he was incarcerated in a Maryland prison, where he died May 9, 1840, aged only thirty-three. Mrs. Torrey died a number of years since.

In 1827 his college bestowed upon Mr. Ide the honorary degree of S.T.D. He was eminent both for his knowledge and his faculty of imparting it, and he was repeatedly urged to accept the professorship of theology in the Bangor Seminary. Such a position would have been congenial to him and he would have filled it well, but he was bound to his people by the most affectionate ties, and he chose to live and labor and die among them. From the commencement of his ministry almost his life was a constant struggle with ill health, yet by care and regular habits he prolonged his life through nearly a century—the first century of his country's independence. His countenance indicated feeble health, but by his uniformity of life he was enabled to accomplish an amount of labor which seems incredible. During his long pastorate he spoke to his people “five thousand messages of life,” and stood eight hundred times by “the open grave,” and his wise words of counsel and consolation were always theirs at need. He served thirty years on the school committee, and was among the most public-spirited citizens of his community.

He was a leader in all moral reforms; an earnest and consistent advocate of total abstinence years before the temperance reform was launched. An incident related of him at the time of his graduation from college shows that the spirit of temperance moved within him actively and practically at an early age. The custom then prevailed for valedictorians to supply liquors for the class suppers. Mr. Ide courteously declined to follow this fashion, but offered a fitting equivalent. Some of the class took offence and when the valedictory address was to be given would not rise. “The valedictorian was ready for the emergency. Standing a little more erect, he quietly surveyed them and said: ‘A wise man sometimes gets angry; but anger resteth only in the bosom of fools.’” Mr. Ide was, too, a pioneer in the temperance cause, and lived to rejoice over some of its greatest triumphs. He was a trustee of Amherst College for over twenty-five years, and for several years editor of *The Christian Magazine*. His published discourses were numerous; ordination and funeral sermons, and occasional sermons and addresses, more than forty in number. He also edited and published, in seven octavo volumes, the writings of Dr. Emmons, including a memoir of the great man's life by himself, and in this “did great and lasting service to the science of theology in interpreting that princely theologian.” He lived a very studious life, filling his whole career with constant labor even to its latest period.

Without the peculiar brilliancy of descriptive or imaginative power, or forceful sway of a magnetic oratory, he had a simple, manly way of handling vital truths and grappling with practical issues, that interested his hearers, aroused their moral sense, impelled them to decision, and helped them towards holy living. He was deliberate and impressive without the accessories of rhetoric; a strong and judicious preacher." As a man he was thoroughly genuine, honest, manly. He was gentle, yet strong: full of merriment, but truly sympathetic; a wise counselor; "a son of consolation"; cautious, yet bold. "He never attempted to cross a bridge before he came to it, and he never went around an emergency. It was one of his maxims that a man can say anything that ought to be said, if he says it right." Another was: "You can do what you have a mind to, if you won't say anything about it." He was a man of remarkable prudence and self-control. It was characteristic of a man whose persistent purpose was to subjugate himself to say as he did after he had passed his eightieth year. "I have got the hardest job on hand I have ever had to do: *I have got to take care of an old man.*"

In the course of some remarks made at the fiftieth anniversary celebration, Dr. Parks,¹ of Andover, in a few suggestive lines, presented a condensed, but completed picture of Dr. Ide's life. In this he said: "Thus does the influence of a good man diffuse itself through the community, and a faithful preacher, even if he be an invalid, is a city set upon a hill which cannot be concealed. Dr. Ide has been an invalid through his entire ministerial life; but by his example in his parish, by his judicious and thoughtful sermons, by the essays and discourses which he has published, by the volumes which he has edited, by the young men whom he has educated for the ministry, he has exerted an influence which has been felt, and will continue to be felt, in distant parts of our own land, and on the other side of the sea."

Dr. Ide died January 5, 1880, aged ninety-four years, nine months, and six days. His funeral was attended by a numerous assembly of clergymen, who united in rendering fitting tributes of respect to the venerable, excellent man and minister. With solemn and impressive ceremonies, borne by friendly hands and followed by a community of mourners, this good man was laid away to his rest, among the people he so tenderly loved, with whom and for whom he had labored so long and so faithfully, even through the years of two generations of men.

EZEKIEL GILMAN ROBINSON, D.D., LL.D., the son of Ezekiel and Cynthia (Slack) Robinson, was born in this town March 23, 1815. He was "a lineal descendant of George Robinson, one of the original purchasers from the Indians of the town of Rehoboth," and one of the proprietors of the Rehoboth North Purchase. Previous to 1730 six of the name, descendants of

¹ A college classmate of the author, and a man who was always greatly admired by him. — F. R. R.

George, of Rensselaer, had settled in this town. Other members of the Robinson family have been eminent. "Several members of his grandfather's family were prominent physicians. His uncle, Dr. Samuel Robinson, (then, much younger), was one of the earliest physicians of this country. His sister, Ruth S. Robinson, (several years his senior and now 88 years old), who survives him, is a highly accomplished woman, and was for thirty years Principal of Townsend Female Seminary in Massachusetts, and afterwards, until the breaking out of the Rebellion, Principal of the Female Seminary at Norfolk, Va. She still occupies the ancestral estate of her works of one hundred acres, in the extreme southwestern part of the town. The old family mansion was burned down in 1819, and immediately replaced by the present house. Many important and no doubt most interesting family papers were, it is said, consumed at that time.

"In his boyhood Dr. Robinson enjoyed the ordinary advantages for education then open to him and early gave evidence of a superior mind. From the common school he went to Day's Academy in Wrentham, Mass., then to the academy at Pawtucket, and finally to the Institution at New Hampton, New Hampshire, where he was prepared for college." He entered Brown University in 1834, and was graduated with honor in 1838. Having chosen the ministry as his profession, he entered the theological seminary of his denomination at Newton, this State, where he graduated in 1842. During that same year he accepted a call to a church in Norfolk, Va., and remained there until 1845; during the years 1843 and 1844 holding also the position of Chaplain of the University of Virginia. In 1845 he returned to Massachusetts and became the pastor of a church in Cambridge. He remained there but a year, and then removed to Covington, Ky., where he held the position of Professor of Hebrew in the theological seminary in that place. He discharged the duties of this position "with fidelity and zeal" until his resignation, which occurred in 1848. From 1849 until 1852 he was pastor of the Ninth Street Baptist Church in Cincinnati, Ohio. "In this position he was faithful and successful, and left behind him an excellent influence."

In 1852 he became Professor of Theology in Rochester Theological Seminary, and "during the first year of his professorship in Rochester he delivered in the First Baptist Church a series of discourses on modern skepticism, which attracted large congregations." In 1853 the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity was bestowed upon him by his alma mater, and in 1872 that of Doctor of Laws. The latter he also received from Harvard University upon the occasion of the celebration of its two hundred and fiftieth anniversary in 1886. He retained his theological professorship for eight years, and then, in 1860, was elected president of the seminary. This was a position which he was in every way most admirably adapted to fill, because of his unusual abilities and self-reliance, and his previous experiences in other institu-

tutions of learning. He filled it "with distinguished ability and success," and his term of office as head of the seminary, which extended over a period of twelve years, was one of marked prosperity. It was with exceeding regret that his resignation of the presidency was accepted by those in charge of the official interests of that institution.

"Upon the resignation of Dr. Sears in 1867 as President of Brown University, Dr. Robinson was earnestly solicited to become his successor," but unsuccessfully. In 1872, because of the resignation of Dr. Caswell, it again became necessary to elect a president over that University, and the Corporation, recognizing Dr. Robinson's great abilities, not only in his peculiar department of learning, but in other and wider ranges, fixed upon him a second time as their choice. This time their solicitations met with success, and he accepted the Presidency, and became also Professor of Moral Philosophy and Metaphysics. There was not in the entire Baptist denomination a clergyman better fitted for such a high office, for to the intellectual and moral attainments essential he added the dignity and noble physical presence so desirable in all presidential officers, and of such special and peculiar importance in those at the head of institutions of learning, where example must join hands with precept, in order to accomplish the highest degree of development possible, in not only the minds and characters, but the manners of those who enter our great schools to be prepared for many of the most elevated stations of life.

"The announcement of his election called forth from various quarters the highest encomiums of his personal character and of his rare qualifications for an office that had been filled successfully by Manning, Maxey, Messer, Wayland, Sears, and Caswell. Previous to the election to the Presidency Dr. Robinson visited Europe, accompanied by his family, and spent a year traveling and pursuing special studies."

"He was most cordially welcomed at the University, and the commencement of his official duties was marked by enthusiasm. In his opening address before the members of the corporation, faculty, and students, he struck the keynote of his coming administration. 'The duties of this office now assumed impose grave responsibilities, but they are duties not lightly assumed. They are not fully unknown or untried. They are entered upon with reliance on that Providence which shapes institutions and men alike. It is not forgotten that great, and good, and devout men have stood in this place. May the same spirit rule in this institution which has so deeply impressed itself on its affairs and made the university what it now is. We shall ever bear in mind that the aim of the college should be the development and improvement of the whole man, including his physical, intellectual, and moral nature.'"

The records of the college, during the seventeen years while he remained its head, prove the choice which fell upon him to have been a most fortunate

Neander's *Planting and Training of the Christian Church*. In 1866 he published his work entitled *The Relation of the Church to the Bible*, and in 1883 his *Lectures on Preaching*, which were delivered in New Haven the previous year to the theological students of Yale University. In 1887 he published a work called *The Principles and Practice of Morality*. He had recently "prepared for publication a work on the *Evidences of Christianity*, and had done much writing of an autobiographical nature" for a biography being prepared by Professor Elias H. Johnson of the Crozer Theological Institute.

To his great intellectual gifts and his varied and profound acquirements in the realms of learning Dr. Robinson added the accomplishments of an eloquent and finished orator. Tall and of imposing presence, his appearance alone exerted a magnetic influence upon his audiences and this was intensified by his speech. He generally spoke directly to his hearers with no written words between himself and them, and his thoughts, couched as they always were in choice yet simple language, commanded earnest attention; and presented through the medium of a clear, musical, and highly cultivated voice, with a beauty and a grace peculiarly his own, they fixed themselves upon the minds and memories of all the listeners within its extensive range. He charmed and interested every one, whether young or old, ignorant or learned. Once heard as a public speaker he could not easily be forgotten, and the pleasure and profit of his discourses will long be remembered and gratefully recalled by those who were fortunate enough to have listened to them.

In the necrology of Brown University for 1893-94 were found several of the above-given quotations relating to Dr. Robinson. We copy the following interesting paragraph in full: "During his administration the University made substantial progress. New professorships were created, the means of instruction were enlarged, the elective courses of study were increased, the number of students grew, the University funds were augmented. New buildings were erected, namely, the John Carter Brown Library building, Slater Hall and Sayles Memorial Hall. An addition was made to Rhode Island Hall. Wilson Hall was begun. The Ladd Observatory was promised. The Jenks Museum was fully established (though more recently named from its director and benefactor, Dr. Robinson's classmate, Prof. J. W. P. Jenks), and the Museum of Classical Archaeology was founded. Old University Hall was thoroughly renovated, in fact, built anew inside the old walls. Besides his regular services in the University and his baccalaureate sermons, which were pronounced before immense congregations, he delivered a series of lectures in Manning Hall on the history of intellectual philosophy and metaphysical science. He preached in the various pulpits of Providence and vicinity with singular acceptance, and on great and special occasions his services were solicited both far and near. He was easily one of the most

impressive personages in Providence while he resided there. His tall form, his strong, positive intellectual face, under its crown of snowy hair, at once assumed him to be a person of distinction. When he spoke he had unusual powers of language. His great scholarship revealed itself, and his own strong and original thought stimulated others to think. His speech was incisive, his criticism keen and unsparring. Yet, when he spoke from the depths of his own convictions, when his tenderer feelings were stirred, when he pleaded the cause of divine love, no one could excel him in truly pathetic eloquence. He was a great pulpit orator. As a teacher, he taught his pupils to think, to go deeply down into the heart of things, to despise shams, to aspire for perfection. Although the student in his class may often have felt the keenness of his criticism, yet no other more frequently was really patient with students when general discipline was concerned, or more ready to condone offences. He had a kind heart under the exterior that often may have seemed unsympathetic or reserved. The irritations of the annoying daily cares of a college President often fretted him and gave him a more imperious and forbidding exterior than really corresponded to the nature within. Possibly it may be found, when his life work is fully reviewed, that the happiest and most fortunate period of his life was that spent in Rochester. The influence which he has had on the Baptist pulpit, on the theologians of the Baptist Church, on the thought of the whole of that religious body in this country is simply incalculable. The college and seminary Presidents and professors, the pastors whom he trained as a teacher of theology, are potent disseminators of this influence to-day."

We may justly be proud of the fact that Dr. Robinson was a native of Attleborough; proud that once again one of her sons held worthily the prominent, influential, and responsible position of President of one of the most venerable and well-known among our New England collegiate institutions of learning. We should be deeply grateful that our town has had the honor of giving birth to a man of such true greatness and nobility of character, a man from whose life, living or dead, has emanated and will continue to emanate for generations to come potent and far-reaching influences for the highest good of mankind.

CHAPTER XVI.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES, CONTINUED.

ISAAC ALGER, the subject of this sketch, is of the seventh generation, including the first settler of the name in this country. Thomas Alger, the direct ancestor, came here as early as 1665, being at that time in Taunton. Later he removed to Bridgewater, where it is supposed he died. Israel, his son, became a farmer in that town, and "a man of influence and wealth for those days." His wife was Patience Hayward, of a prominent family in Bridgewater. They had five sons. Joseph, the second son, was also a farmer in that place. He married Mary Ames, and they had eight children. The youngest of these, Edmund, became a farmer in West Bridgewater, and lived to quite an advanced age. He had five children. Isaac, the second son and child, was born in Bridgewater in 1764. He married Susanna Johnson in 1788, and settled in Attleborough between 1800 and 1810, on the farm now occupied by his grandson of the same name. He died in 1842, leaving four children. Willard J., the third child and only son, became the occupant of the farm. April 12, 1828, he married Lois Brown, of Foxborough, and he died September 26, 1855. Mrs. Alger is still living with her son. They had five sons, of whom Isaac was the eldest. He received only a short common school education, as at the age of fourteen he was obliged to leave school, and at eighteen he took charge of the farm. January 7, 1857, he married Susan Matthewson. They have three children, Susan W.,¹ Isaac, and John W., all residing in town.

A portion of the land comprised in the present Alger farm has been in the family three quarters of a century. The original farm was purchased of Noah Tiffany by the first of the name in town. Its hundred acres were then chiefly woodland. The first Isaac Alger only attempted to get a living in a moderate way from this land, and he willed it to his grandson, giving his son nothing of it but a life interest. He, Willard J., allowed it to run down in every way, so when the present occupant came into possession he found himself the owner of a hundred acres of "positively bare land," which was withal heavily mortgaged. With this legacy, in reality some hundreds of dollars "worse than nothing," Mr. Alger began life for himself. He seemed to inherit the farming abilities of his earlier ancestors, and by energy, industry, and perseverance he has made his farm one of the best in town and

¹ She married Mr. Eugene Pearce, formerly a resident here for some years. They now live in Chicago, Ill.

himself a well-to-do man financially. He has now some three hundred acres of land, a small portion of which yields fifty tons of hay annually. There are thirty or forty acres of pasture, about forty in cultivation, about ten of cultivated cranberry land, about the same amount of natural cranberry meadow, but a large proportion of the whole is woodland. The buildings are a good dwelling-house, a large barn, a cranberry house, and five or more houses for rental. Mr. Alger's sons have their share of the work of the farm to attend to, and men besides are employed, with, in the busy seasons the necessary "extra help." Horses and oxen both are used, and a number of cows are kept upon the place. The dairy is under Mrs. Alger's supervision, who supplies several families with butter, and whatever milk there may be finds a ready market because of its excellent quality.

Mr. Alger's special crop and largest source of income, is cranberries. He turned his attention to this crop many years ago, believing it could be made to pay well. He began in a small way at first, as his means were limited, and made only a small piece of land. The process of "making" is a simple one. It consists only in removing the turf and turning in five or six inches of gravel, into which plants are set. Some years of waiting for profits may follow, because the crop is a precarious one, but when a good one is reaped the reward is abundant. When land is once well made it requires but little labor or attention to keep it in good condition, an occasional coating of sand, and to be kept clear of grass and weeds being all that is necessary. He has made ten acres of this land, and the first made was as good at the end of the twentieth as at the end of the first year. He raises several varieties of this fruit, the "Bell," the "Bugle," and the "Cherry" being among them, the latter the most salable. He originated a variety which he named the "Black Pond Seedling," and which he deems superior to the others.

These berries are all picked by hand and taken to the dry-house, where they remain until they have a uniform color, being then ready for the market. Great care is taken in grading them when they are being prepared for shipment, as they are marketed and sold by grade. During many years Mr. Alger has employed as many as a hundred pickers, and his crop has for some years averaged two thousand bushels. Pickers are paid fifty cents a basket, and earn from one to three dollars a day, "according to their activity." One of them at one time "picked five pecks of clear berries in fifty-seven minutes by the watch." The largest market has been Chicago, but shipments have also been made to New York and Philadelphia. These shipments are made for cash on the cars here in town, and the raiser has nothing further to do with the berries.

Mr. Alger from barren wasted land has brought out a fine and fertile farm. He has thoroughly tested his occupation here in New England, where it has been said the land never meeting him, and he emphatically declares, and has abundantly proven, that it pays, and has "just as good

a profit as any other business with the same amount of capital and labor expended." He says also: "There is not a crop you can put into the ground but will pay a handsome profit, rightly managed, especially in Attleborough. Attleborough is the best market in the United States." Many may deny this statement as a whole, but most concede that it may be true of small farming, for the town market for early and late fruits and vegetables is yearly increasing, and there are large cities at hand on both sides to which access is complete. Mr. Alger has clearly demonstrated the fact that in "sterile New England" a farmer can not only make an excellent living, but even amass a competence from the products of the soil.

BARDEN.

The first of this name in town was one Thomas Barden, who in 1757 was living on the place now occupied by Charles E. Carpenter. His second son, named Thomas, was born in town February 24, 1765. He had a son, also named Thomas, who was born May 3, 1788. This Thomas settled in Wrentham. He married Rachel Smith and had seven children, three of whom are still living. Of these John Smith Barden was born in Cumberland, R. I., in 1813, and became a machinist by trade. He assisted in building the first eight-wheel car that ran over the Boston and Providence Railroad. Since 1834 he has lived more or less in North Attleborough. Joseph Grant Barden was born in Wrentham in 1825 and came to North Attleborough in 1857, where he has since resided. He has five children, four sons and one daughter.

THOMAS ALEXANDER BARDEN was born in Wrentham, May 30, 1819. He was educated at Perkins Academy, North Attleborough, and the Bridgewater Normal School. He taught school during the winter of 1842-43, and in the spring of the latter year commenced his business life as a manufacturer of both domestic and foreign straw goods in Wrentham and Franklin, continuing for five years. In the spring of 1848 he removed to North Attleborough and became manager of the variety store of Ira Richards & Co. Two years later, in 1850, he erected a store near the "old Hatch Tavern" and carried on there a successful business in dry goods, boots, shoes, and clothing until 1872. Since that time he has been associated as a silent partner with his two sons, Francis I. and Walter E. Barden, in the same trade, at the same place, under the firm names of T. A. Barden & Co. and Barden Brothers respectively.

Mr. Barden has frequently been chosen to fill places of public trust in town — has held the office of selectman, assessor, and overseer of the poor; has been a member of the school committee and in other minor offices. In 1851 he was appointed a justice of the peace and has retained the office ever since. He is a life member of the Bristol County Agricultural Society, was a trustee of the Attleborough Farmers and Mechanics Association, and is a director in the same society under a new name and organization — the

Attleborough Agricultural Association. He was educated a Democrat, but while still young he became inspired with a love for Liberty and Equality, and entered actively into the "Liberty and Free Soil Movement," later joining the Republican party. In 1861 the first temperance association was formed in North Attleborough. Mr. Barden, then a school-teacher, joined that organization and has ever since taken a lively interest in the temperance movement and its work. In 1869 he united with the Baptist Church. He has held the office of treasurer, is now the clerk of the society of that denomination in North Attleborough, and during the many years of his residence in that village has been a prominent member of his church and society.

October 12, 1846, he married Susan Emily, daughter of Alfred and Rhoda White, of Wrentham. They have had seven children, of whom four are living, namely, Francis Lewis, Ella Isaac, Walter Abbott, and Emily Louise. In 1872, when he retired from active business, he returned to the occupation of his boyhood—farming. He has turned his attention especially to the cultivation of fruit, and in this he has met with signal success and has received many premiums from agricultural associations for his fine exhibits in that line. Mr. Barden has identified himself thoroughly with the interests of this his adopted town, and he holds a high place among her useful citizens.

HENRY F. BARROWS was born in South Attleborough, July 22, 1828, the son of Alfred and Louisa Barrows, both of this town. His education was that provided by the common schools of the town and the North Attleborough High School. At the age of twelve he went to that village and since that time, 1840, he has resided in that part of the town. Like most of our business men he learned the trade of jewelry-making and was for a time in the employ of T. B. Richards & Co., an establishment which might well be termed the school of its day for that occupation.

In 1853 Mr. Barrows commenced business for himself at Attleborough Falls as a manufacturer of jewelry. In 1855 he associated with himself Mr. James H. Sturdy, the firm name being Barrows & Sturdy, and the following year they removed to North Attleborough. In 1857 this partnership was dissolved and a new firm established, the new name being H. F. Barrows & Co. Mr. Barrows was thus the founder of one of the most prominent jewelry firms in town. He has proved himself to be a man of enterprise, good judgment, and special business sagacity. He began business upon the principle of meeting his obligations in full and with promptness. He has continued to conduct his affairs by that rule and has reaped the reward such a course usually and generously affords; an abundant measure of business and financial success, for his reputation is unquestionable and he stands at the head of the list of citizens in town.

He is connected with various organizations here and elsewhere — organizations which involve both large moneyed and other important interests. His long continuance in these positions proves his capacity for the direction of affairs, and that reliance can be and is placed upon his opinions and judgment, both by the people of his own town and of other places. He is and has been from the beginning the president of the Attleborough Branch Railroad. Of this enterprise which has been so fruitful of benefits to the town he was the chief promoter and principal stockholder. Upon the organization of the North Attleborough National Bank he was elected its president and still retains the office. He has been a director in the North Attleborough Gaslight Company for fifteen or twenty years, a director in the First National Bank of Pawtucket since its organization in 1864, and is also a director in the Providence Telephone Company. He has been for a number of years a trustee of the First Universalist Society. He was one of the leaders and promoters of the project for building a new church for this society, and a very liberal supporter of the movement which resulted in the present complete and beautiful edifice.

October 12, 1854, Mr. Barrows married Henrietta T. Richards, eldest daughter of Ira and Fanny Draper Richards, of North Attleborough. They have five children: Ira, who resides in New York; Henry F., Jr., Fanny, Louise, and Harriet, all residents of North Attleborough.

EZEKIEL BATES was born at Hanover, Mass., November 5, 1795. He was the youngest of fifteen children, two of whom were still living, very advanced in years, at the time of his death. When fifteen years old he was apprenticed to "Uncle Jacob" Capron, of this town, the father of Sheriff Elijah Capron, to learn the trade of a house carpenter. He served him until he was twenty-one and then started to make his own way in the world in Boston. A few years later, while still working at his trade there, Frederick Tudor sent him out to the West Indies with the first cargo of ice that was ever shipped from New England. This was both his first and last voyage. He returned from it in 1822, and during that year was married to Lois, the only daughter of Jesse Daggett, of this town. The ceremony was performed by Hon. Ebenezer Daggett. Mr. and Mrs. Bates had three children, who lived to maturity: Mary Ann, who married Lowell Wilmarth, of this town, and Jesse D. and John T. Bates, both residing here.

From the time of his marriage until 1849 Mr. Bates resided in Boston, where he was engaged in the business of a contractor and builder. In that year he removed to this town, to the residence now occupied by his son John.¹ For fourteen years he was a partner of Albert H. Kelsey, of Boston.

¹ This is on the farm inherited by Mrs. Bates from her father and stands a few rods south of the old house, on the west side of the "New Boston road," the site of which is still marked by a large elm tree and a well.

and during that time "he had the honor of building the first railroad passenger depot ever erected in the United States, — for the Boston and Worcester Railroad." He was one of the incorporators of the Mechanics Mutual Fire Insurance Company of this State, well known as a strong, reliable company, and he was actively interested as a member of the Massachusetts Charitable Fire Society. He took an active part in the revival of the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics Association — was one of the earliest to make a move in that direction — and for thirty years he had a general supervision of the arrangements for the famous triangular fairs of this society. A political organization called "The Republican Association" was formed in 1812 and Mr. Bates was one of its original members. During his entire life he never once missed attending the annual meetings of this society, which occurred on the fourth of March. The association was formed during his apprenticeship here, when he was but a lad in years, — only seventeen, — and it shows that at a very early age he began to think upon the public and political questions of the day, and having thought, he formed opinions and accepted principles and was ready to act upon them decidedly and promptly. The spirit of the "boys of '76" lived on in the boys of 1812, and Mr. Bates, one of those "boys," served in the war of that date, in Captain Elihu Daggett's company from this town.

He took great interest in the Masonic order and was for many years a prominent member of it. He became a Mason in Boston, where on June 9, 1821, he joined St. Andrew's Lodge. In 1834 and 1835 he was master of that lodge; was for a long period one of its trustees, and at the time of his death, with one exception, was its oldest member. He was also a member of St. Andrew's Royal Arch Chapter, having advanced to the degree of that name. His paper was given to the lodge formed in East Attleborough when taken of record for his operations as a Mason.

One says of him that when he started in the battle of life he was "strong and robust, of good morals, a benevolent disposition, buoyant spirits, and a refined sense of honor and justice," adding that these were "characteristics which have been the distinguishing traits of his life." During a long term of years he was often placed in offices of trust, both in Boston and in this town, "and his whole life was one of general usefulness and philanthropy." Even advancing years did not exempt him from public duties and he was as zealous at the end of his life as at its beginning in whatever service was required of him. In 1862, when he was nearly threescore and ten years old, he represented the town in the Legislature. His election to that position during the stormy troublous times of the Rebellion shows that his character and capacities were recognized and relied on, and that even in old age his mental and physical vigor were not abated.

His last illness extended over a period of more than three months, and he died of paralysis, March 17, 1871. The funeral was attended at the Second



1. View of the building from the east. 2. View of the building from the west. 3. View of the building from the south. 4. View of the building from the north. 5. View of the building from the east. 6. View of the building from the west.

Congregational Church, under the charge of Bristol and Ezekiel Bates lodges, and with the solemn and impressive burial service of the order, in the presence of hundreds of people. At the close of the services his remains were formally committed to the care of his mother lodge, St. Andrew's, and by them interred in the cemetery at Mount Auburn.

Mr. Bates had no early advantages, but he rose above circumstances and surroundings, and by the force and trueness of his character made for himself an excellent position in life, gaining a high place in the esteem of his fellow-men. He was kind and amiable, but strong and manly withal, an indulgent husband and father, a friendly neighbor, a public-spirited and loyal citizen, "hopeful in purpose, zealous in progress; always full of earnest anticipation for the future good of the community in which he lived." He was skilful as a workman, thoroughly industrious in whatever pursuit occupied him, of unquestionable integrity, honest in all things, and unflinchingly devoted to the right. He possessed what is rare—an evenly-balanced character, a sound mind, good judgment, and a varied knowledge of men and things. This he gained by observation and experience, the best educators. Born with talents which he recognized he made the right and best use of them, and his high position in the town and his wide influence were due solely to himself. His was a long and well-spent life and it ended with much that was good and useful accomplished for his fellow-men. [The only survivors of his immediate family are the two sons.]

JOSEPH M. BATES was born in North Kingston, R. I., August 2, 1833, and there he spent his childhood and early youth. On leaving home he went first to Providence, and from there, in 1857, he came to this town. On September 10 of that year he made his first essay in the manufacture of jewelry at Willard Blackinton's shuttle-shop. The business was at first a very limited one, as he had but two men engaged in the work besides himself; but from this small beginning the ends already attained have been very great. Thirty years ago he had only that small hired room; now he is the owner of seven shops and rents space to twenty-four tenants who are engaged in the jewelry trade, while he occupies besides a large amount of room for his own personal business. Thirty years ago he had almost no capital and himself assisted with the "work at the bench"; now he is the possessor of large wealth. The road to fortune was not soon an easy or brilliant one; he made no "lucky strokes" to "hit" the popular eye and "gain" the popular taste; he commenced in that well-remembered year of great and general depression all over the country and had many discouragements and had to climb the ladder slowly round by round; but finally success became signally assured.

On June 26, 1853, he married Louise Gardner, of Warwick, R. I. They have three children: Charles R., who married Annie Tinkham, of Norton; Mary L. and Frank M., all residing in town. For fully ten years, since the

death of its first president, Wilbur Blackinton. Mr. Bates has been president of the First National Bank, and he holds other offices in town. He is a member of Bishop Bates Lodge of F. and A. M.

Uttah, most everywhere, it can be said of Mr. Bates that having made his money in a northern place he is willing to spend it freely there, and not alone for the pleasure and benefit of himself and family but for the pleasure and benefit of the entire community as well. He seems quite content with the life he has adopted down there, more so, perhaps, than many born and bred in it, as is evidenced by the fact that for more than five years recently he did not pass a single night outside of it. He has done much for his village, proving himself a public-spirited man. This is shown notably in the last building he has erected — Bates Opera House.

It is built of brick, has a frontage of a hundred and sixty feet, is about a hundred and fifty feet deep, and is three stories high. It covers fifteen thousand square feet, and a million bricks were used in its construction. Though the front of the building is irregular, as it stands where Park and North Main streets intersect, it presents a very fine appearance. The first floor is occupied by various stores, and the postoffice, which has recently taken possession of the rooms handsomely fitted up for its use by the owner. The second story contains offices, of which there are eleven in the building, and two suites of bachelor apartments, which are very prettily decorated and furnished, and quite complete in their appointments.¹ The third story contains several halls, which are occupied by three of the secret societies of the village. The interior of the building in every way quite fulfills the promise of the exterior. There are several entrances, and the halls and corridors are sufficiently spacious. The same hardwood finish, a moderately dark cherry, extends through every story, and all the decorations are of colors pleasing to the eye and producing an harmonious effect. This is especially true of the largest lodge hall, whose walls and ceiling are carefully decorated in patterns that suit well the fine proportions and make it as a whole an elegant and imposing apartment.

The theatre lobby is spacious and cheerful, and has a well-furnished ladies' room, and a comfortable smoking-room for gentlemen. The theatre proper occupies the rear of the structure, and of course the full height. The audience-room consists of orchestra and parquet chairs and one tier of galleries, and has seating capacity for eleven hundred people. Very much can justly be said in praise of this room. Its proportions are excellent, the colors used in its decorations are sufficiently varied, but not too pronounced, and the style of finish adopted is very good, particularly that of the boxes.

¹ Mr. Bates has sometimes purchased European hotel furniture and fixtures for the theatre, and has had some of the same placed in the lobby and smoking-room. It is a very good thing to have such a variety of styles and materials, and it is a very good thing to have such a variety of styles and materials, and it is a very good thing to have such a variety of styles and materials.

The chairs are thoroughly comfortable, roomy, slightly movable, and handsomely upholstered. They are "something new" in their line, and at the time they were placed had been introduced into only three or four theatres in the country. (Mr. Bates acknowledges having expended \$7,000 on them alone, but all other figures as to the outlay on the building must be left to conjecture, as he declines to state them. They are no doubt large, because everything has been thoroughly done.) The large central chandelier, of a fine quality of crystal, is very beautiful in itself, and when fully lighted presents a most brilliant appearance. There is nothing here that is gaudy, nothing to offend a critical eye or taste — nothing unsuited to totally untheatrical entertainments; on the contrary, the entire effect is one of cheerfulness and a quiet elegance. The stage is unusually capacious and the scenery is handsome and complete in variety, and all the modern improvements and appliances for producing plays smoothly are supplied. The dressing-rooms are numerous, and, according to the verdict of many actors, more commodious and better furnished than in many larger theatres; certainly they meet the wants of a large company. In a word, the whole opera house compares favorably with the largest in many of our great cities, and the writer has never seen one of its size that is at all its equal in point of comfort or beauty.

The opening night, September 30, 1886, marked an era in entertainments in the town. The audience was a large one, and made brilliant by the bright costumes and beautiful flowers of the ladies. The play was of the best — *Richelieu* — the company excellent, with one of our most talented and renowned actors, Lawrence Barrett, "in the title rôle." Throughout the entire first season, which numbered some thirty-five performances, the position taken at the start was maintained, and only plays of a good class were presented. To preserve the rule thus established seems to be the owner's intention, and for this the thanks of the community are due, especially as such a course is not always the most successful financially.

This theatre is an innovation in East Attleborough, and Mr. Bates met with considerable criticism for building it — criticism no doubt honest, but on the whole it would seem rather unjust. People at times demand amusement, and if it is not to be found at home, they will seek it abroad. This was the case here; many often attended the play in the nearest cities, which meant a large outlay of money, late hours, and frequently doubtless some of the attendant dissipations. These latter adjuncts are not necessary with the theatre at home, and if, as has been said, because of it much money leaves the town, some at least must remain, and some of the business interests of the village must be benefited.

But Bates Opera House is by no means confined to the purposes indicated by its name; it has already been occupied for other and varied uses. Up to the time of its erection the village had no place suitable for many occasions

of public and general interest. The churches were the largest and best ones, but they were (reportedly) found inadequate. That was of necessity made use of, and sometimes the purposes for which they were rather wholly dissimilar, not appropriate, as being must acknowledge. A want in this direction had long been felt, and it was met by this building, which will be found more and more useful as the years go by and the community enlarges and increases. Prejudice will then be disarmed, and the builder be accorded, as he richly deserves, unanimous commendation for providing a structure adequate in size, convenient in arrangement, and as attractive as it is successful.

BLACKINTON.

PENTECOST BLACKINTON was the first of that name in town, and he came from Marblehead or Dorchester about 1700. He had land and a house on Seven Mile River. His wife's name was Mary, by whom he had several children, one of whom at least reached maturity. He died September 24, 1715. Pentecost second had eight children by his wife Rebecca Figgett, Peter, born in 1731, being the youngest. "He was a farmer, was a good citizen, law abiding and God-fearing, and died at a good old age." His son William was born November 2, 1758. He was a gun manufacturer during the Revolutionary war, entered the army also as a soldier, and received a wound in the battle of White Plains. Subsequently he was associated with his son William in cotton manufacturing both at North Attleborough and Falls Village. His residence was on a large farm which he owned in Wrentham. "He was known to everyone as Deacon Blackinton." November 29, 1781, he married Elizabeth Babcock, of Westerly, or Hopkinton, R. I. Four of their children lived to maturity: William, born September 20, 1782; Virgil, born May 12, 1796, married Hannah, daughter of Obed Robinson, and was connected with Willard and Richard Robinson in the manufacture of buttons; Jason, born August 24, 1798, graduated at Brown University in 1826 and after receiving a legal education passed most of his life as a teacher, in Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee; and Willard. Deacon Blackinton was a victim of the plague which swept over this and other towns in 1816. To each of his sons he left about three thousand dollars, "a handsome property for those days."

CHARLES WILLARD BLACKINTON was born October 20, 1807. During his boyhood he lived with his brother William, who was a farmer "on the old homestead." His education was that of the common school and academy. Early in life he acquired a mercantile taste, and began business for himself. His first occupation was that of a general country trader, but he continued this only a few years. In 1827 he established his manufactory of power-saw-mills. This filled "a long felt want," and the business soon became quite an extensive one, the goods being sent to all parts of the country.

In 1821 he married Clarissa, daughter of Amos and Sally Sweet, and they had six children: namely, William and Willard, twins; Clarissa E., who married Nathan C. Luther, for many years the postmaster of the East village, and one of its highly respected citizens; John, Charles A., and Amos S., of whom Willard is deceased, John resides in Providence, the remaining three brothers in the east part of this town.¹

Mr. Blackinton was not alone a successful manufacturer; for many years he was among the most active men of the town in many lines of enterprise, both of "business activity and public service," and was honored by his fellow-citizens in many positions of public trust. "In early life he took great interest in militia matters. Of active and vigorous temperament, large, and physically well-proportioned, with a resonant, full voice, he presented a fine appearance, and held the position of adjutant and colonel of a regiment of troopers for years." He was repeatedly called upon to act as the moderator of town meetings, and as the chairman of various popular or political assemblages, and these positions he always filled acceptably. He was an ardent supporter of his political convictions — those of the Whig and Republican parties — and a very popular man in his party: for, when doubtful elections threatened that party, he was frequently the one to be nominated for office, and he never sustained a defeat. As proof that his political integrity was relied on it may be stated that his fellow-townsmen called him at various times to fill every office in their gift, and he served them creditably in all, from the minor public positions in the town itself to those of representative and senator in the State Legislature. He was for a number of years the popular postmaster of the East village, his first appointment being soon after 1830, and "he was a valued member of the Masonic fraternity." He was master of Bristol Lodge when the Morgan agitation created its strong feeling of enmity toward Masonry throughout the land, and when the feeling subsided and interest in the order could be publicly revived he was again elected to the same office.

Of marked ability, Mr. Blackinton was a successful business man, a good financier, and was considered a valuable counselor in business affairs. "He was a director and one of the chief originators of the old Attleborough Bank, and one of the promoters of the First National Bank of Attleborough, of which, upon its formation, he was at once elected director and president." He died very suddenly of heart disease on January 1, 1877, while fulfilling his duties as presiding officer at a meeting of the board of directors held at the bank. He was kindly and generous in his family, an attentive husband, an indulgent and affectionate father, thoroughly social in his nature. He was interested in public measures of improvement, and a liberal supporter of good works. Of fine presence, a dignified and courtly bearing, with the

¹ William and John are both deceased.

masters of a "post-mortem of the old school," he was a great favorite in all social gatherings, and is known to have given pleasure alike to young and old. He filled an important place in the town, and especially in his own community, a place which in many respects can never be filled, for the men of his type—the old school type—seem to be fast passing away from our midst.

WILLIAM BLACKINTON, one of the two oldest sons of Colonel Blackinton, after completing his academic education entered the shuttle manufacturing business as a partner with his father and two of his brothers. For ten years the firm bore the name of W. Blackinton & Sons, William, Willard, and John being the younger members. About 1854 he left this business and started that of cotton manufacturing, which he continued for three years in this town and Pawtucket. This proving unsuccessful, he decided upon a change, and in 1857 took up that of jewelry. For twelve years the business was small, but in 1869 he commenced making plated chains. He then originated a new line of these goods, which speedily proved popular. The demand created for them was soon very large, and his business increased rapidly and continuously, until it became one of the largest and most profitable in town. He has applied himself very assiduously to this one work ever since he entered upon it, having had little or nothing to do with politics, or the public affairs of the town, and to this fact no doubt much of his success is due. He has attended personally to each department of his manufactory, seeing that his goods were the best of their kind, and such as he stated them to be; he has worked himself when he deemed it necessary to insure the proper results, and thus by his careful superintendence his business policy and sagacity has brought his firm to its present high standing, really earning the success which he has won.

Mr. Blackinton married Rebecca C. Allen, a daughter of Josiah and Rowena Tingley Allen, of this town. Their children now living are William Sumner, Charles F., Harry C., Louis A., and Ada R. Blackinton. A number of years since he built for himself a commodious residence on County Street. This he occupied until the present year, 1888, when he sold it and removed to Providence.

CAPRON.

BANFIELD CAPRON, the first of the name known in America, came from England in 1674 or 1675, when about fourteen years of age. He was born in 1660 and tradition says he came alone, and as a cabin boy, to seek his own fortune. After his first marriage he settled in Barrington, this State, "whence after a residence of twenty years, he moved with a large family of children away back into the woods to what is now Attleborough," and he

Mr. James Blackinton (son of the former) died in 1886, and was buried in the same grave. CAPRON IN 1888.

became a large landowner here. He purchased and laid out a large tract of land between the Bungay River and the Falls, that on the mill road to what is known as "the Lucas Daggett place," and he also had landed possessions from his first wife, who was the daughter of John Callender, who very early lived where the house of Philip Brady now stands. He owned lands where the Farmers village now is, and built his first house on the site of James B. Dean's residence, near Deantown, and a second near the site of a house built not long since by the late B. J. Angell, on his farm, known as the "Jacob Capron farm." In that vicinity he lived and brought up his very large family, and about fifteen years before he died it is said he gave to each of his children a farm of about two hundred acres. They numbered ten or eleven and were all by his first wife. He died here August 20, 1752, at the very advanced age of ninety-two years. It is supposed he was buried in the "Peck burying ground," and what was the duty of all apparently became the duty of none of his children, for no stone was ever erected to his memory.

Captain Joseph Capron, the second son of the above, "was a farmer, and a man of repute in his day." He was born September 12, 1691. He was married three times and had nine children. His wives were Judith Peck, Bethiah Burt, and Mary French. The latter survived him. He died October 14, 1776, in his eighty-sixth year. Joseph, Jr., — by the first wife, — was fourth child and oldest son of Captain Joseph. He was twice married: first to Sarah Robeson, by whom he had seven children, and second to Sarah Foster, by whom he had eight children, five of whom died at an early age. He was born in November, 1722, and died August 1, 1784. Otis, the third child by the second wife, was born April 17, 1767. "He was a farmer, and an honored and useful citizen, and served his day and generation well. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, serving at Newport." He died March 3, 1845. His first wife was Rachel Sweet, by whom he had three children, Sally, Mrs. Thomas French, deceased; Nancy, Mrs. Lucas Daggett, still living in this town at a very advanced age;¹ and Otis, who died young. His second wife was Mrs. Hannah Kent Bliss, widow of Jonathan Bliss. Their children were Joseph W.; Maria, deceased; Sabra A., Mrs. Sumner Capron, of this town, deceased; Hannah K., Mrs. Joseph Newcomb, also of this town, deceased; and Rachel Cemantha, widow of Sidney Morse, of this town.

JOSEPH WILLARD CAPRON was born September 24, 1802. He had the education afforded by the public schools of the town, and that of the preparatory department of Brown University. He had intended to enter that college for a course of study, but finding that much attention to the classics

¹ Mrs. Daggett died in September, 1889. She was ninety-three the August preceding.

was required, the knowledge of which is almost about necessary in the preparation to which his father set him, he changed his plans. He himself has recently said he read Dr. Franklin, who then it is almost unnecessary, and this confirmed his opinions, and he seriously uttered: "As I could not leave my language well, I considered it foolish to attempt two or three." He associated for a time with Dr. Ide, and among that society's ranks (Mr. Ide began to teach school for sixteen dollars a month), meeting with success in that occupation. He had very early shown a fondness and aptitude for surveying, and even while a student in 1818 he began practical work in this direction. From that time to this he has been employed in that capacity, making that work his chief business.

In 1827 "he was elected and qualified as town surveyor," and during that year he surveyed all the roads in the town of Pawtucket, Scituate, and Rehoboth. He has surveyed fully half of the land in the city of Providence, and in the course of his long life he must have traversed its native land in whole or in part many times. The following year, 1828, the State employed him as an assistant surveyor on the projected route of the Boston and Providence Railroad Company. He has held the office of a justice of the peace for over fifty years, has been elected a county commissioner three terms, and has held a small farm, a mill, and a mill race, and a piece of the post office for several years. He was president of the Attleborough Mutual Fire Insurance Company for years, held the same office in the Loan and Fund Association of Attleborough, and is still the president of its successor, the Attleborough Loan and Savings Association, in the last two organizations his term already covering a period of over thirty years. He is treasurer of the Norfolk and Bristol Horse Thief Detective Society, and has been president of the Attleborough Gas-light Company since its organization. Mr. Capron has been all his life a Democrat, a firm believer in the principles of Jefferson and Jackson, for the latter of whom he cast his first Presidential vote in 1823.

In 1824 he married Adeline Bliss, granddaughter of Dr. James Bliss. She died March 19, 1872. Two children by this marriage are living: Isabella A., Mrs. Amos Ide, of this town, and Ellen M., who married, first, George L. Payson, of Taunton; and, second, George W. Capron, of this town. October 14, 1872, Mr. Capron married Cynthia Blossom, of Northboro, Mass. He has always possessed the vigor of perfect health, "has never employed a physician for himself, and never has known a sick day." When eighty years of age he could "go out with his favorite instruments and without apparent fatigue, do days' work that would appall much younger men." Not many years ago he walked from Pawtucket to his home, a distance of nearly nine miles, after eight o'clock in the evening, and said he "could have walked back easily without resting." For more than a half-century he "has been personally identified with the public interests of the town," but, though the competency he has accumulated renders additional labor unneces-

sary, and his advanced age is a valid excuse for giving it up entirely, he is still able and prefers to be actively employed in the pursuits to which he has been so long accustomed, and which have made him in his day one of the town's useful men.¹

ABIEL CODDING was born in Rehoboth, January 29, 1817. The ancestors of this family came to Taunton at a very early date. James, who is the first mentioned, was born there and became a farmer, and he was a soldier in our army during the Revolutionary War. His wife was Joanna Eddy, by whom he had three children: David; Abigail, who married Wheaton Barrows; and Abiel. The latter was the youngest, and was born in Taunton, October 27, 1792. He came to Attleborough when about fourteen and worked on a farm for Seneca Sanford, where he proved himself to be industrious, frugal, and temperate. He became "a well to do farmer in this town, where he lived for more than sixty-three years, leaving an example of industry and sobriety well worthy the imitation of the present generation. He was a soldier of the War of 1812, and drew a pension for his services." He died October 3, 1881, having almost reached the age of eighty-nine. His wife was Chloe, daughter of Elihu Daggett, by whom he had thirteen children, eight of whom lived to mature age.

Abiel, the oldest son and subject of this sketch, was brought to this town when a year old. His father's farm was in East Attleborough, and he stayed at home until he was sixteen, receiving the education provided by the common schools of that time. "He was of a mechanical turn of mind, and early turned his attention to the jewelry business. Hence at sixteen we find him in the employ of H. M. Richards. He remained with him some three years, when he formed a copartnership with Stephen Richardson, and was thus employed a short time when they dissolved, and Mr. Coddling continued his trade as a journeyman, making valuable improvements in the different kinds of tools used in the jewelry business. In 1839 he went to Philadelphia

¹ In April, 1888, Mr. Capron resigned his presidency of the Gas Company but still retains that of the Loan and Fund Association. Within a few years he has had two attacks of illness, but he recovered from them naturally and was apparently restored to his accustomed vigor. Upon the last occasion medical aid was summoned, but the doctor said: "I was called after all real necessity for my presence was past, Mr. Capron was getting well himself." On September 24, 1892, he became ninety years old. He announced publicly that he would be at home on the evening of that day to everybody who would call upon him, and many persons from the town and elsewhere availed themselves of the rare and pleasant privilege of offering congratulations upon such an occasion. The house was all thrown open, and tastefully decorated with autumn leaves and flowers. Mr. Capron had a corded greeting for all, remembered to inquire for absent friends and acquaintances, and interested himself personally for the comfort of his guests. Some he felt needed chairs though he stood unweariedly for hours himself, and straighter and firmer than any one present. One thing he had insisted upon in advance — there must be "young and pretty girls" in the dining-room to pour the coffee, and he was urgent in having matters arranged for their ease and pleasure. Four generations were represented — himself, two daughters, a son's daughter and her child. He is by several years the oldest person in town. He retains his mental and physical faculties to a remarkable degree, his hearing appearing to be the only one impaired. May he live to greet the new century, and then still longer to fill out his full hundred years (February, 1894). Vernal Stanley, of North Attleborough, is a little older.

to work for his old employer, H. M. Richards, but remained only a few months, when he returned to North Attleborough, and entered the employ of The Richards & Co. In 1841 he entered this firm and remained in it until in 1876 the death of the senior partner caused a change in name and partnership, and under the new name he continued in the firm for thirty years, until it was dissolved. This latter was the famous firm of E. E. Richards & Co.

Mr. Goodling was naturally a free-lancer, and by close application to his business he attained a degree of success unequalled by few. He made valuable improvements in manufacturing, and obtained several patents for new tools. He is one of the directors of the First National Bank of North Attleborough and president of the Attleborough Savings Bank, president, also, of the North Attleborough Gaslight Company. He belongs to the Democratic party but takes no public interest in political affairs. No man has more of the respect of his community than he.

October 28, 1841, he married Ann Maria Richards, daughter of Odyon and Olive Blackinton Richards, of this town. She was born August 16, 1819. They have had five children. Arthur E., James A., and Edwin A. are all engaged in business in North Attleborough. The daughters, Ella M. and Ellen L., are both deceased.

CUMMINGS.

This family is supposed to be of Scottish descent, but the first to emigrate to America came from England at about the same time that "the three brothers Richardson came," and settled in Woburn, this State. The great-grandfather of the present generation was one Alexander Cummings, as the name was then spelled, and he married a Richardson, probably a daughter of one of the "three brothers." They had nine children. Of these David was the one who came to this town to settle and about the time of his marriage he bought the farm now owned by Allen and George Cummings in Bearswamp — or Bearcroft, as it is now called. Very little is known of him. An old rifle still in the possession of the family is known, however, to be the one he carried in the French and Indian War, and as conscientiousness is a leading trait of this family, it may be assumed beyond doubt that he performed his duties as a soldier very faithfully. In all probability the old rifle may have slain more than one Indian while in his hands. This David Cummings had seven or nine children and he died about the time of the birth of Benjamin, the youngest, who occupied the old homestead during his life and who died there May 20, 1860. The death of the father had left the mother with a large family of young children, the support of which devolved upon herself and David, the oldest son, at that time but twelve years of age. They all remained together until David was twenty-two years of age, when he purchased a farm about a mile distant from the homestead, and here the homestead of a Mr. Blaup and the farm now owned by Mr. Murdie. Here he spent the remainder of his life until he died March 18, 1846, at the great age of eighty-five years.

It is related of him that when fifteen years of age he carted a load of hay to Providence and received his pay for the same in the currency of the country, which was at that time nearly worthless and amounted in bulk to about as much as the hay. During the War of 1812 Mr. Cummings was sent to the defence of Narragansett Bay, but the expected attack of the enemy did not take place and he returned home after only a short absence. He had four children: Preston, Lucinda, David, and Milton.

PRESTON CUMMINGS, the oldest son, when a youth sustained rather severe injuries by falling from a load of hay and after that it was decided to give him an education. In those days the turning of farmer boys into professional men was often the result of accident, as in this case. Mr. Cummings graduated at Brown University in 1822 and entered the ministry in the Congregational denomination. His first pastorate was at Dighton, this State, and he subsequently had charges in Wrentham and Buckland, finally returning to Dighton. During the last years of his life he published a "Congregational Dictionary" and he also occupied himself in collecting manuscripts and books for several antiquarian societies. He died in Leicester, Mass., at the residence of his son, in 1875. This son, James, the only one of his family who lived to maturity, became a physician and settled in Leicester, where he established an excellent reputation. He had just acquired a good practice when he died. His death was caused by the exposure consequent upon attending to the call of a patient when he was under treatment for sickness himself.

DAVID CUMMINGS, a younger brother of the above, followed the avocation of a farmer. He had to pick up an education as best he could, having no instruction beyond that afforded by the district school and two terms at Day's Academy in Wrentham. He purchased a farm about a quarter of a mile from his father's, on which he lived his entire life. To his work as a farmer he frequently, during his younger days, added the occupation of school-teaching in the winter months. He died at an advanced age, on October 12, 1884. Mr. Cummings was a scrupulously honest, industrious, God-fearing man. There are many who will long remember him as he was during his later years, who will recall the somewhat bowed form and the kindly face, surmounted with a crown of snow-white hair, especially as they appeared in their accustomed pew in the Congregational Church of his village: for as long as health and strength permitted, in summer's heat or winter's cold, his place in the sanctuary was filled — none ever found it vacant. He was a quiet, unobtrusive man, and, comparatively, his life was a quiet and uneventful one: but the measure of his many days was filled full of duties to God and man well done. He thought only on "whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report," and the virtue and the praise of such a life were his. Who shall say that he did not exert a wider and a

valued influence than could another have possessed in the movement of the world and of men. He was a truly good man and his country is the better for the example of his consistent Christian life.

HARVEY N. DAGGETT, son of HENRY FLEMING and Sally Macey Daggett, was born in this town, January 27, 1821. After attending the common schools here and working at the same time on his father's farm, as most country boys then did, he went to the Wrentham Academy (Dartmouth), and later to the one in North Attleborough, where, under ISAAC PERKINS, his school education was completed. He served a short, unprofitable apprenticeship with a relative in Boston, and then returned home and became a clerk in a store at the Falls for a time. In 1849 he formed a partnership with his brother, H. M. Daggett, and they purchased the Falls mill, where, for several years they manufactured print cloths, sometimes with success, sometimes with the reverse. This partnership was dissolved about 1855. From this time until 1860 Mr. Daggett engaged in other kinds of manufacturing, chiefly the weaving of hoopskirt wires. He at first started with a few braiders in the Steam Power Company's shop at Attleborough, but, needing more space than he had there, he later removed to the Farmers mill. After the breaking out of the war he was occupied for a while in filling government orders for sabres. The blades were made in Maine and he manufactured the scabbards in the Steam Power Building. He made some \$70,000 worth and for a time this was about all the business done in the East village.

For some time previous Mr. Daggett had been revolving in his mind the idea of manufacturing dress and other kinds of a good quality that should equal the foreign goods of the kind, which up to 1861 usurped the markets. The war at that time laid an embargo upon European imports, thus creating a large demand in this direction, for which the supply was entirely insufficient. This embargo made the desired opportunity, and he seized it with great promptness and energy. He repurchased the Falls mill property and commenced the braid business there and it at once became a very extensive one. He still continues to carry it on under the name of the Gold Medal Braid Company, and it is specially noticed in a preceding chapter. This property had become somewhat run down; the tenements and their surroundings were shabby and untidy, and some of the inhabitants were so lawless that the community had come to have a rather disreputable name. Previous to his becoming the owner the rowdy element had at times been decidedly predominant, had taken possession frequently of the streets, the sidewalks, the streets, and the public meeting, to the expense of the better class of people. At home he had much possession. Mr. Daggett came here and had it reformed, and the "roughs," who had become a real terror, under his decided and vigorous treatment "rather left town, or learned into good citizens." He has greatly improved the whole property, erected new buildings, and made for himself there a charming home. Since his advent various jewelry

firms have established themselves at the Falls and at Robinsonville, and the two villages, now together called by the former name, have had a remarkable growth and present as a whole a thriving and attractive appearance — no small share of the great improvements being due to his efforts. He was the means of establishing the much-needed postoffice there, and most liberally pushed forward the building of the new church of the village, both with time and money. He has had no trouble with strikes, probably in part because there has been nothing to give rise to such a course, and in part doubtless because his employees have thoroughly understood that *unjust* demands on their part would result in their prompt dismissal, with very little prospect of ever again finding work in the same place.

Mr. Daggett is a thoroughly enterprising man and actively interested in public improvements. Whatever work he undertakes he pushes to completion with energy and in spite of opposing obstacles. He was one of the originators of the "Branch Railroad," active in pushing forward the work of its organization and construction, and has been treasurer of the corporation from the beginning. He is a staunch and zealous Republican, always ready to support his party and to work for its interests, and he has often represented it for the town at political conventions. For some years during the Civil War he was "Chairman of the Selectmen" — the duties of which office were then especially onerous — and in 1864 he was the town's representative. He was relied on when our country was in danger and there was peculiar need for every loyal citizen to show of what stuff his principles were made. In working to uphold the State and General Government, to aid and support our armies in the field, and to make the war record of our town a worthy one, no man was more faithful and zealous than he. He was a deputy sheriff at one time, held the position of town clerk from 1848 till 1851, was selectman (as previously stated) and assessor, and in 1884 was for the second time a representative to the General Court. He "has been a member of the Governor's Council and has held other positions of honor within the gifts of the people." He was always loyal to *Attleborough*, the town of his birth, and had no desire to see any portion of its territory "set off" from another portion to be made into a separate town. He was therefore one of the strongest opponents of the division and worked assiduously in all ways possible to prevent its taking place.

Mr. Daggett has been married more than once, and has had eight children. Four are living and all residents of this town: Josephine S., Mrs. Harvey Clap, of Attleborough Falls; Florence J., Mrs. H. F. Barrows, Jr., of North Attleborough; Frances A. and Blanche Daggett, the latter by the present wife.

[Mr. Daggett died February 27, 1894, aged exactly seventy-three years and one month, after an illness which for more than a year had exhibited symptoms of a markedly serious and at times imminently fatal nature, and frequently been attended with attacks of extreme suffering.

by an unusual sound, the mewling of a cat in his sleeping-room. His first thought was for the bank keys, and going to the places where they were kept he found some of them gone: this was before the days of combination locks, and keys were rather large and ponderous. Examination speedily showed that the house had been entered and gone over, many articles were scattered about and some were found on one of the outer doorsteps, and quite an amount of personal money taken. Fortunately, a large sum secreted in the house, to be taken the following day to Boston, was not discovered. The neighborhood was quickly aroused, and the cashier with several of the gentlemen started for the bank, then at North Attleborough. The keys taken proved not to be the outside ones, and the building was found intact, the would-be burglars having neglected to provide themselves with any means of effecting a forcible entrance. The missing keys were found near the bank, but no trace of the miscreants was ever found. Some story about two "suspicious looking men," who left a "stable team" they had hired, tied to a tree in an adjoining town, with money for its use fastened to the bridle of the horse, floated about for a time, impressing young people with its air of mystery, but nothing further was heard of this matter.

After his twelve years of service at this bank Mr. Daggett again became a manufacturer, and for a few years he carried on business at the Farmers and at Deantown, making yarn and knitting cotton, and for a short time engaged with his brother in the making of shoestrings. In 1875 he assisted in organizing the First National Bank of Attleborough, was elected its first cashier, and has never been superseded in this office. In these days of absconding bank officers and times of "turning over" public moneys for private benefit it is worthy of note that a cashier has retained his position for a quarter of a century and has during all that time possessed the unquestionable confidence of his brother officers and the entire community, beyond the shadow of a doubt. In 1859 Mr. Daggett was elected Senator in the State Legislature, and served one term. For many years he has been a deacon in the First Baptist Church in North Attleborough, and in whatever position he occupies his reputation is the same — that of an unassuming and reliable man and citizen, and a dignified, Christian gentleman.

In May, 1843, he married Angelina Daggett, of this town. She died October 9, 1885. They have had seven children, four of whom died young. Those living are Alice A., Homer M., Jr., and Sanford, the two latter married, and all living in town.

LYMAN WHITE DAGGETT is a descendant, as are the brothers above mentioned, of the John Daggett who came here from Chilmark about 1711, and a direct descendant of the oldest son, Mayhew, who was a deacon, presumably in the Baptist Church at North Attleborough. The son of Mayhew, Eldred, was an elder of that faith, and first preacher in the South Baptist Church of this town. He was a captain in the provincial militia, "and with two of his

sons, Mayhew and Ishmael, was engaged in the fight at Fort Mifflin, in 1778, which resulted in the capture of Fort Mifflin, together with one armed vessel, sixty cannon, sixteen mortars, and a vast quantity of ammunition. The circumstances of the father's participation in this battle were frequently related to another son, Elihu, who was at the time a lad of about thirteen. "The two sons had been absent some time in the war, and no news had been received from them. The father said, in his anxiety, 'If I hear nothing in a week, I will go and find them.' Nothing was heard. He shouldered his musket, reached the seat of war, found a battle raging, entered the action, and after the victory discovered his sons as participants with himself in its glory." This lad Elihu, who later evinced a decided aptitude for martial pursuits, was born December 4, 1745. He was an adjutant and a minute-man in the Revolution, and when the alarm sounded from Bunker Hill started at once for the field. He was a farmer, and for many years a teacher also. He built the house at the Falls, which is now the residence of H. N. Daggett. He died June 14, 1833. Captain Elihu Daggett was his son, and was born February 24, 1785. He also became a farmer, but he took great pleasure in all military exercises, especially in the training and disciplining of soldiers. For a short time during the War of 1812 he commanded a company stationed at Plymouth, Mass., and afterwards, when the war was over, he was the means of forming the Washington Rifle Corps, became its first commander, and to him doubtless was largely due the fact that it was "distinguished as one of the finest and best-disciplined companies in the brigade." Captain Daggett married Lucinda White, of Pembroke, Mass. She was a descendant of Peregrine White. Her father, Captain William White, was a faithful soldier of the Revolution, present at the surrender of Cornwallis, and engaged in many battles during that fearful struggle. Captain Daggett died January 25, 1871.

His only son was Lyman W. Daggett, the subject of this sketch, who was born July 28, 1812. He attended the schools of this town, and was always an eager and earnest scholar. Having received the instruction then afforded by these schools, he entered Phillips Academy at Andover, Mass., "enjoyed its rich opportunities, faithfully improved the facilities there afforded the honest, struggling student, and left with the respect, benediction, and warm recommendation of its renowned principal, the late Osgood Johnson, Esq." For eight years he was a successful teacher in both public and private schools. Then he entered the ministry and became pastor over the Universalist Church and Parish in Holliston, Mass., and later preached in Andover, Mass., and in Woodstock and Hartland, Vt. As a preacher he was clear and practical and as a pastor he was conscientious, faithful, and devoted, willing ever "to spend and be spent" in the service of his people.

June 8, 1842, he was married to Nancy G. Fuller, daughter of John and Nancy Fuller, of Wrentham. Mr. Fuller was of a prominent family in that

town, and through his mother related to Dr. Jonathan Maxcy, previously mentioned in this book. Mr. Daggett had three children, only one of whom is living, Cora La R. Daggett. His mother's death occurring in 1847, he at that time resigned his pastorate in Hartland and removed to Attleborough Falls, where he continues to reside, engaged as his ancestors were "in the successful pursuit of agriculture." Like many others in town, he has been to a moderate extent in public life, having filled the offices of selectman, assessor, overseer of the poor, and town clerk several times, and served often as a member of the school committee. In 1851, 1852, and 1853 he represented the town in the Legislature. As a member of that body "he was a friend and advocate of prohibition, of the mechanics' lien law, of home-
stead exemption, of the secret ballot, in fine, of all enactments calculated to promote home rule, free votes, and honest counts. He has always been true to temperance, speaking on all suitable occasions in its advocacy, and living in the practice of total abstinence from all intoxicants for more than fifty years past." While he has never had a regular pastoral charge since returning to this town to reside, he has during those years been at times a frequent preacher, not only in the church of which he is a member, but in those of other denominations.

Mr. Daggett is a man of well-balanced character, one whose judgment may safely be and is relied on, and whose actions are consistent with his high principles.¹

DEAN.

Ephraim Dean was one of the pioneer settlers of this town. He came here from Taunton and purchased large tracts of land on which there were valuable water privileges. He settled in what is still from him called Deantown. Tradition says that his first day's work on his arrival here began with the felling of a tree; then, strong man as he was, he cried a while — overcome for the moment doubtless by the loneliness of his situation; then he went to work to build his camp or hut, using a blanket for the doorway; and finally, all completed, he went to sleep. The next morning no doubt found him refreshed and full of renewed courage, ready "to face the situation." He took up at first eighty acres, afterward largely increasing this amount, until finally he became possessed of about four hundred acres of land. He built the mill at Deantown, where nails were manufactured by himself and his sons. He married Martha Balcomb, a woman of enterprise as he was a man. She was well fitted to assist her husband in his pioneer work and to aid him in laying the foundation for his subsequent success. They had four children: Asa, Ephraim, Patty, and Sarah. These two sons remained for many years on the spot where their father settled. Ephraim was the farmer and Asa

¹ Mr. Daggett died January 10, 1892, and Mrs. Daggett, January 19, 1892. They were buried at Mount Hope Cemetery.

the profession. He was a wheelwright, carriage-maker, &c., and became a leading business man in his town. He was born here in 1770. He was married twice. His first wife was Phoebe Wilmeth, by whom he had six children, and the second was Olive Dean, by whom he had seven children.

LEWIS WASHINGTON DEAN, one of these seven, was born February 22, 1810, from his mother's name. His father died December 25, 1816, when he was not quite seven years of age, leaving a large property, consisting, however, chiefly of rather unproductive real estate, the care of which and of four children devolved upon the mother. Mr. Dean remained on the farm for about six years after his father's death, and then his mother removed to a factory village near, — probably the Fairbanks, — where two of the family found employment. He himself worked in the mill for eighteen months as a mule-spinner, which was then a more honorable position than it is now. Although he was under age he was allowed to act for himself, and he had the disposal of the money he earned. He has said himself that he failed to make proper use of the educational advantages he might have had as a boy, and as he advanced in life he felt the consequences of this neglect; but he set himself to work to rectify as far as possible what he called the mistake of his youth. For one year he followed a varied course of study, first in a common school and later in the Wrentham Academy, and such was his natural ability for real study and his aptitude to learn that in this short time his success was particularly marked, and on leaving the academy he had a recommendation to teach English branches in the common-school course. He began teaching in Rehoboth, where he satisfied those who employed him; but soon after his mother returned to the old farm and he gave up his situation to become its manager for her. From that time for some years, until 1835, he worked at farming during the summer and taught during the winter months in this town, Taunton, Canton, and Dedham, in all places giving satisfaction.

He married Maryette Ingraham, daughter of Ezra and Eloisa Richardson Ingraham, of this town, on April 8, 1833. Mrs. Dean was born here May 31, 1807. Their children were Henry L., born April 17, 1834, died July 3, 1857; FARRA, born December 10, 1837; SAMUEL, born November 1, 1840, died November 24, 1849. Henry left one daughter, Mary W., who lived with her grandparents until she was sixteen years of age, when she died.

Mr. Dean was as a young man an earnest supporter of temperance principles. In 1835 the proprietors of a temperance hotel in East Attleborough, knowing the position he maintained on that question, though probably in some degree influenced by their knowledge of Mrs. Dean's abilities for managing domestic details, offered the charge of their hotel to him, which he accepted. Two years later, in 1837, by a freak of fortune, it is said, he was enabled to purchase that even then valuable property. During the same year



1. Kindergarten School, W. H. H. 2. Building of Green, A. H. 3. House of Mrs. J. D. 4. Building of W. H. H. 5. Building of L. H. H. 6. Building of J. H. H.

he took charge of the postoffice, which he held for twenty-four years with the exception of a short period. For thirteen years he was agent at the railroad station. "Up to 1850, Mr. Dean continued to fill his offices of host, station agent and keeper of the postoffice," in which year he was removed from the latter office, though to the regret and against the remonstrances of many of his fellow-townsmen. The office at that time was worth about three hundred dollars a year. About this time he resigned his position as station-master — almost a necessity in view of the variety of his other occupations, for he kept a livery stable in connection with his hotel and ran a line of stages. This was the first line of stages established here and ran "eight miles from the railroad station."

He was for fifteen years a director of the bank, and he held the office of a notary public for some time. This was an unsolicited appointment which he received from Governor Briggs, and coming thus from his opposing political party was complimentary to him as a citizen. Various local public offices were from time to time tendered him which he declined to accept. In 1848 he was for the first time nominated for State Senator, but at that period politics were much divided and his election was not secured. The following year he was nominated again and refused to accept, but when in 1850 he was nominated for the third time he was elected. In 1851-52 he was Sheriff of Bristol County under Governor Boutwell. He held the office of a justice of the peace for over thirty years; that of a collector of internal revenue for a number of years; and for some time he has been a collector of pensions and bounties, which duties he still attends to. He was formerly a Democrat, but known as one "of the most liberal stamp" and one never "ashamed or afraid to utter his sentiments in behalf of his party tenets." In 1860, however, he voted for Abraham Lincoln, and since that time has identified himself with the Republican party, though continuing to "maintain the same general principles he always advocated" and holding "that the Democratic party has left him, not he the party." He was very active in all "war work." He made many a stirring speech in the "war meetings," rousing in others something of his own enthusiasm; he urged forward all patriotic measures adopted by the town and performed a creditable share in the work accomplished by our loyal citizens. He has been one of our prominent public speakers. He always had reasons for holding the opinions he adopted; his arguments were good, and if he spoke at all upon any question, it was because he had something to say, and he said it plainly and vigorously. Mrs. Dean was also very active in work for our soldiers of the Civil War, and she was long known in her village for her good works among the needy and sorrowing. "Auntie Dean's" words of comfort and cheer, joined always with deeds of kindness, will yet long be remembered by their recipients. Advancing years and broken health have now compelled them to relinquish their public duties, but both Mr. and Mrs. Dean are able to look back over many years of useful

highest matters of public interest, and his judgment is relied on in the settlement of estates. So many and so varied duties of a responsible nature are continually being placed upon him that he has come to be a very busy man in work for private individuals, the community, and the town. He never seeks preferment, but he performs all his duties, whether of a public or a private nature, quietly, without ostentation, with the courtesy inherent in his nature and the dignity becoming his character and position. A conscientious man of high principles and strict integrity in every form of dealing, no town can well be without his like or number among its citizens too many such upright, Christian gentlemen.

FRANK S. DRAPER was born November 8, 1829, the son of Josiah and Mandama Everett Draper. When eighteen years of age he became an apprentice of Tift & Whiting to learn the trade of jewelry making, and at the expiration of his time became a member of the firm of Draper, Tift & Co., at Plainville. There was a prosperous existence of ten years' length and then Mr. Draper sold out his interest to his partners — the firm name being then Draper, Tift & Bacon.

In 1862 he enlisted in the Forty-seventh Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, being mustered into service on September 23 of that year as First Lieutenant of Company C. This regiment was sent to New Orleans and on August 4 of the following year Mr. Draper received a commission as Captain of the Second Louisiana Native Guards. Subsequently he served on General Banks' staff, and did good service in every position he occupied. His services to his country as a soldier ended only with the close of the war, when he returned to his native village, North Attleborough. About 1866 he associated with F. G. Pate and F. S. Bailey, as manufacturing jewelers, under the name of Draper, Pate & Bailey. The business had greatly increased in 1875, at which time Mr. Pate withdrew and the other partners continued as F. S. Draper & Co. In September of that year the firm was burned out, but Mr. Draper was too energetic to allow himself to be discouraged by such an experience and immediately began plans for the future. He soon purchased the shop which with some changes and additions he occupied till his death. In 1877 he bought Mr. Bailey's interest in the business and continued alone, though he retained the last firm name.

In 1851 he married Harriet E. Robinson, by whom he had two sons — Josiah E., a member of the firm of Draper & Franklin, and Frank E., a physician. Mr. Draper was actively interested in the formation of the First National Bank of Attleborough and was one of its directors at the time of his death; in 1877 he was elected vice-president of the Attleborough Savings Bank, and retained the office as long as he lived; for a number of years he was treasurer of the North Attleborough Fire District, and about 1885 was selected as one of the water commissioners. He was a liberal promoter of the work of the First Universalist Church and Society. He

was a member of Bristol Lodge of F. and A. M. and of Keystone Chapter of Foxcroft. He was a Knight Templar in Holy Sepulchre Commandery of Portland, and was one of the charter members of Bristol Commandery. He was always actively engaged in town affairs, took part in public meetings, and did what lay in his power to advance all the best interests of the town. The labor question was one which also excited his interest and attention, and he was an active member of the Knights of Labor organization. In this organization he was especially popular, and his death called forth very general expressions of sympathy and regret from the working people.

Mr. Draper died August 15, 1886. The funeral was attended at his late residence and conducted by Rev. W. F. Fittler and Rev. Mr. Allen, the latter a personal friend. He was buried at Mount Hope Cemetery by the Masonic order. One says of him: "Mr. Draper was a man of marked thoughtfulness, was deeply interested in public affairs, and was very sympathetic with the poor and unfortunate. He performed many unostentatious kindnesses, none of which attracted public notice, which have caused him to be remembered with gratitude by the recipients of his thoughtfulness. The spontaneous expressions of sympathy during his illness, and the general regret at his death, are a strong testimony of his hold upon those around him."

FISHER.

JOSEPH FISHER, as may be seen in the accounts of the Old Colony boundaries, was one of the commissioners appointed in 1664 to run a line between Plymouth and Massachusetts colonies. Richard and Samuel, supposed to be his sons, came to Wrentham from South Amherst or prior to 1700. Richard had two children, of whom Samuel was the eldest and the only son. He "was a stonecutter by trade, was a captain of militia in the Revolution, being called to the field while attending church with his company." He was born in 1732 and died in 1816 at the age of eighty-four. He had five children, of whom Samuel was the eldest, was a stonecutter, "and like his father, was a diligent, hard working man of honesty and thrift." They were the Samuel Fisher & Son who made the Angle Tree monument erected in 1790 on the line between this town and Wrentham. This Samuel third married Olive Ellis, daughter of Captain Jabez Ellis frequently mentioned in the early part of this town's history. Both were victims of the terrible plague of 1816, when so many people of this vicinity died. They had nine children.

SAMUEL P. FISHER was the third child and second son. He was born in Wrentham August 2, 1769. He attended the common schools, whose advantages were very few limited, and learned the blacksmith's trade of Enoch Arnold, under the old system of apprenticeship." In 1818 he came

to this town and commenced plying his trade "in a shop near Hatch's tavern." His first wife was Charlotte, daughter of Othniel and Chloe Blackinton, by whom he had two children, who died. She died in 1832, and in the following year Mr. Fisher married Susan G., the daughter of George and Judith Guild Blackinton, by whom he had five children — William W.; Carrie A., Mrs. H. S. Somes; Samuel E.; Charles E.; and Mary E., Mrs. T. E. Sloane, of Brooklyn. Mr. Fisher's blacksmith-shop "was one of the old landmarks, and in stage-coach times was a common stopping-place, and the only place of the kind in this part of Attleborough." For thirty-three years he carried on this business and then relinquished it to take up that of real estate and at the same time to occupy himself with his farm. "He was a man of strong convictions and fixed principles," but yielded to others when he became satisfied that he held wrong opinions. He belonged to the "old line Whig party," and afterward became a Republican. He was an active and consistent temperance man and inclined toward Universalism, though he never became a church member. "He was a kind husband and father, and did for his children all that his means would allow. He was an honest man, much respected by his acquaintances, and straightforward in everything." His death occurred January 6, 1863, at the age of sixty-seven.

WILLIAM W. FISHER is the oldest son of the above by his second wife. He was born July 19, 1834. He attended the common schools, and then "learned the jewelers' trade," later taking up that business, which he has continued ever since, two years only excepted, those being passed in work at the Springfield Armory. December 22, 1859, he was married to Nettie, daughter of William B. Pileher, of Norfolk, Va., who died in 1863. In 1870 he married Lizzie E., daughter of George Miller, of Easthampton, L. I., by whom he has had two children — Mattie L. and Susie M. Mr. Fisher is a member of Hampden Lodge of F. and A. M. of Springfield, Mass., of the Massachusetts Charitable Association, and one of the firm of S. E. Fisher & Co., of North Attleborough.

SAMUEL E. FISHER, the second son, was born November 9, 1839. After going through the town common schools he attended the Green Mountain Liberal Institute at Woodstock, Vt. His first occupation was that of clerk for T. A. Barden, which he continued for five years. "During the Rebellion he was employed by the United States government as clerk in quartermaster and commissary departments in Virginia and Texas." In 1869 he became clerk in the New York office of H. F. Barrows & Co., remaining five years, when he commenced business for himself in his native village. In this he has been successful. His wife, whom he married in 1872, was Georgie S., a daughter of Henry Clark, of New Bedford, Mass. Mr. Fisher is a member of British Lodge F. and A. M. at North Attleborough, and of King Hiram Chapter at Attleborough.

CHARLES FREDERICK FRODIP is the third and youngest son and was born January 7, 1841. He was educated in the town schools and at the Providence Confederate Seminary at East Greenwich, R. I. He had been in business about two years when his war broke out, and he enlisted in Company I, Second Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. He served three years in the Army of the Potomac and after his discharge was employed by the War Department in various positions for four years. Then he received an appointment as 3d internal revenue officer in Virginia. This position he resigned in 1870 and the War Department gave him another in the quartermaster's department in Arizona. Four years later he was employed in the same capacity at Washington, D. C., and continued there until 1880. Upon resigning this latter position he went to Wyoming Territory and became interested in the business of cattle-raising, of which he is still engaged. On November 7, 1876, he married Mrs. Harriet F. Prosser, daughter of J. Q. A. Tresize, of Philadelphia. He is president of the Manhattan Cattle Company, formed by Cheyenne, Wyoming.

CHARLES F. HAYWARD was the son of Captain Abraham Hayward, who followed the seas for at least thirty years. He was captain of a privateer during the War of 1812 and a thorough hater of the English. The captain's father was Abraham Hayward, a resident of Boston, a clerk of old King's Chapel there, beneath which ancient building he is buried. Captain Hayward became a resident of this town and he married Mariette Daggett, with whom he had seven children. The subject of this sketch was born at North Attleborough, August 28, 1824. He had nothing but the common school education of his day, and when seventeen years old became an apprentice to the firm of Tift & Whiting, remaining with it for five years. For the two or three years subsequent to the close of his apprenticeship he worked as a journeyman, for two or three more for himself in his native village in manufacturing gold settings, and then he removed to the east part of the town.

Here he formed a partnership with several gentlemen, under the firm name of Thompson, Hayward & Co. They manufactured first at the Mechanics, but soon moved to more suitable quarters in the East village itself. This firm continued but four years, though in that time they established a good reputation and had a profitable trade. Mr. Hayward then formed the partnership with his brother-in-law, Mr. Jonathan Briggs, which continued for thirty years, the firm becoming very successful and maintaining always the most honorable reputation. In June, 1856, it was dissolved and Mr. Hayward's son entered business with his father, under the name of C. E. Hayward & Co. Being one of the persons in power in this part of the town and continuing in it through so long a period, it may readily be seen that numbers of names on the firm of LAM. ATTLEBOROUGH have been employed by him in some capacity. In 1867 he became one of the four

founders of the New York Watch Company of Providence, which was subsequently removed to Springfield, this State.

Mr. Hayward took a great interest in all matters pertaining to agricultural pursuits, stock-raising, fruit-growing, etc., and was one of the prime movers in organizing the Attleborough Farmers and Mechanics Association. He was one of the first trustees and the second president of the society. He was elected to that office, November 3, 1877, and he proved to be so well fitted for the position and performed its duties so acceptably that though for several years he presented his resignation and announced his refusal of a reelection, the society would not listen to the one or accept the other, and he remained in the office until his death. Public offices of any kind were never desired by him, though he could have had all in the gift of his townsmen had he shown the inclination to accept them. If any were thrust upon him, he quietly accepted and did the required work well, as the success of the town fairs for years testified, a success largely due to his wise forethought and good judgment in arrangement and management. He was a highly esteemed member of Orient Lodge, No. 107, and of the Royal Arcanum, vice-president and director of the First National Bank of Attleborough, director in the Attleborough Gaslight Company, and a member of Woodlawn Cemetery Association.

On June 14, 1854, he married Charlotte E., daughter of George and Eliza Wheelwright, of Boston, who survives him.¹ They had two children: Florence M., Mrs. J. Lyman Sweet, and Walter E., both residents of this town. Mr. Hayward was brought up in the faith of the Universalist Church and was a firm adherent of its principles and beliefs, though without a shade of bigotry, as his liberality toward other denominations proves. "While *professing* very little religion, he *practiced* a great deal of it, and in a manner to win the regard of all Christians, Catholic as well as Protestant." He was one of the trustees of the Murray Universalist Parish and one of the leaders in the movement to establish a church of that denomination in this part of the town. He gave of time and means unsparingly to attain its success and to promote the interests of the society, and he occupied a place in it which cannot soon be filled. He was a staunch believer in temperance and a warm advocate of its cause.

He was never a robust man, and for many years suffered severely at times from asthma. This had increased as he grew older, and in the hope that a milder climate might bring some relief he started during the autumn previous to his death for California. He stayed there about five months, but received no real benefit, rather the reverse; and when he finally started for home health and strength were much reduced. His condition was not considered imminently serious until, after taking a severe cold from exposure

¹ Mrs. Hayward has since died.

It had been a pleasant custom with Mr. Hayward for some years to provide cooling refreshments for the Grand Army on Memorial Day, and they always made a halt at his residence to accept this grateful attention. In remembrance of this courtesy the following was placed among the Memorial Day General Orders for 1886:—

In recognition of the kindly interest ever shown in the welfare of this Post, by our late fellow citizen Charles E. Hayward, and as a mark of respect to his memory, it is hereby ordered that while passing his late residence, on Memorial Day, the band shall play a dirge, and the colors be dipped. By order,

E. D. Guild, Commander.

T. H. Annable, Post Adjutant.

This same custom has been remembered on both the Memorial Day anniversaries since the father's death, and been carried out by the thoughtful son.

Mr. Hayward was a man who attended to his own affairs and never meddled with those of others; but if his advice and counsel were asked, they were freely given, and probably no one in town was oftener thus sought than he. As he was quiet and unassuming in his words and ways, so he was in his deeds—his life was full of unobtrusive acts of kindness and helpful charity, many of which became known only when he was dead. The following extracts are taken here and there from the many sincere tributes paid to him soon after his death:—

He was universally respected, of sterling worth, of strict integrity, of pure ideas, of gentle yet active influence. Without any undue exertion in his life work he made a healthful impression on the community, and in the affairs to which he lent his aid. With no events of great prominence in his history, he maintained such an even disposition, such a faithful performance of his various duties, such an open nature towards his fellow-men, he performed so many little kindnesses and so many helpful deeds, that all feel his was a well rounded life, and that every one has lost a friend.

"In all respects," says another, "he was a model man, and his death is universally regarded as the greatest personal loss his town could experience." Again,—*"In the death of Mr. Charles E. Hayward, Attleborough loses one of its most prominent and exemplary citizens. He was a man of spotless integrity, fair and candid in his judgments, generous and charitable toward all. His death will fall heavily upon his bereaved family, the organizations with which he was connected, and heavily too, in homes of poverty which his quiet and unobtrusive charity had oftentimes brightened. His influence will remain a constant reproof to the cheap ostentation and questionable business methods too prevalent in our times."*

Justly entitled to the strong testimonials to his worth and strength of character, the peculiar feature of his nature was the manner in which he made every one feel that he entered sympathetically into his thoughts and needs and plans. Never obtruding counsel but always willingly and kindly giving it, never pushing for self-advantage but always ready to do his part, he made his influence more personal than that of almost any other man among us. His success in life, the result of frugal and industrious habits, should be a lesson to all young men looking eagerly forward to unacquired future prosperity. His purity of life and gentle ways show what force there may be in quiet assertion of manly dignity, and earnestness of purpose. He was not perfect for he was human, yet but few men exhibit so little of the weakness and failings of humanity as he, while such devotion as he manifested to the duties and trials that devolved upon him is rarely seen. Were he able to speak, he would deprecate with modesty the praise that is bestowed upon him. But gone forever from mortal sight, it is simple justice to pay the tributes of respect and affection which are being wreathed about his memory.

One who knew him most intimately says:—

"His disposition was very even, and I never remember that he was cross or nervous, and all his perplexities, even when his children tried him in the various aggravating ways common to

prominent members of the Congregational Church at Norton, and became a pioneer in forming a similar church in Prescott, Wis., where he first settled, and where he was for many years one of the deacons. This was in the days when log huts formed the dwelling-places of the people in that section, and the carrying on of such work under the rough and rude circumstances that surrounded him shows the real, earnest character of the man. Mr. Stone served in the army, and died in Ellsworth, Wis., December 3, 1887. His wife had died some years previous. Two sons and two daughters survive in Wisconsin, and William M. Stone, of this town, is another son, but by the first marriage.

SAMUEL MOREY HOLMAN, the oldest son of Rev. Nathan Holman, was born in this town, December 1, 1803. He received his education here, besides that afforded by the town schools probably receiving some instruction from his father, who for a number of years had a school in the East village. He gave instruction in the classics, and was a man of decided acquirements in the way of learning. After leaving school Mr. Holman became a farmer on his father's property, and has ever since continued in that occupation, his residence being on the home place only a few rods from the one built and occupied by the father, and later by the brother. Some sixty-odd years ago he was the postmaster, the second regular one appointed for the village. He has also at times held the offices of selectman, assessor, and overseer of the poor. He was a member of the famous Washington Rifle Corps, and is a member of the Odd Fellows organization. He has attained the very unusual age of eighty-six, and is among the very oldest citizens of the town. He has seen two generations pass away, and another advance far on its course, yet his faculties are but little abated. He retains them to a remarkable degree, and his memory goes back clearly for three quarters of a century, to the War of 1812, of which time, and the years immediately succeeding, he recalls many interesting incidents, which he relates with the charm of manner characteristic of his family. His life has been an uneventful one. He has been fired by no restless ambition to do something great or to attract attention to himself, but, satisfied with the groove in which his lot was cast, it has been his aim just to do his duty as it presented itself day by day and year by year. Content with the moderate measure of worldly goods meted out to him, bearing his trials and accepting his joys alike with equanimity, he has walked his even way calmly and steadily, amid all the startling changes that have taken place around him during his nearly fourscore years and ten. Such men command the respect of everybody, and at all times the healthful influence of their evenly balanced lives is useful; and especially is this true nowadays, when a rushing excitement and a continual demand for something new are prevailing elements of our American society.

Mr. Holman has been married twice. His first wife was a Miss Lincoln,

at Northampton. April 14, 1860, he married Christina A. Hamlin, of West Falmouth, Mass. They have one son!

SAMUEL M. HOLMAN, Jun., was born January 1, 1862. He fitted for college and graduated at Andover, intending to enter one of the professions, but was obliged to relinquish the idea on account of his health. He therefore decided to settle at home. He is a dealer in real estate, and also in wood and coal. January 1, 1886, he was married to Violet E. Swift, of West Falmouth. They have one child, Grace Morey Holman.²

DAVID EMORY HOLMAN, youngest brother of the above, was born October 12, 1805, in the house where his entire life, with the exception of a few years, was passed. After the town schools he attended the Weymouth Academy, then well known and of excellent repute. Many Attleborough boys of that and a later period were students there, and, while we do not doubt they pursued their studies as good boys should, we are sure from the reminiscences we have heard that some of them at least were careless in the pursuit of spirit and highly successful in the playing of pranks. His fun-loving nature would prove David Holman to the tones of those merry lads, but his "jokes" would never absorb him to the neglect of duty or the serious annoyance of anyone, no matter how sensitive. After completing his studies he became a teacher, and as such met with good success. All who knew him would say this could scarcely be otherwise. He would have a most agreeable way of imparting instruction, good-fumored, patient, possessing the skill or regard the excellent pupils, and he could illustrate every knotty point or gloomy passage with an "experience," and fix facts and dates in treacherous memories with some apt, interesting story. He did not follow this profession of teaching, but entered business. The manufacture of straw bonnets had about this time commenced in this town or the vicinity, and he became interested in it. Later he opened a store in the Arcade, in Providence, and at the same time continued his bonnet-making.

In 1835-36 he was a representative to the Legislature. He was at this time only thirty years of age, the youngest man ever sent from this town, and one of the youngest, if not the very youngest, ever sent to that body. It is rare that the choice falls upon one so youthful, and when it does so fall it must show that the recipient of the honor has unusual ability. Mr. Holman joined the Washington Rifle Corps and when quite young became its captain, filling the position ably. Upon the breaking out of the Rebellion he at once enlisted, and on June 23, 1861, received his commission as Major of the

¹ Mr. Samuel and Mary's only son, the names are retained and all children are given names beginning with S.

² Mrs. David Holman, nee Swift, was born in West Falmouth, Mass., August 1, 1864. She is now residing in Attleborough, and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Swift.

Seventh Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers. He soon took the field with his regiment, but not long after he sustained a sunstroke and returned home. This accident rendered a temporary leave of absence from active duty not only advisable but necessary, but was not of itself and alone sufficient to prevent his returning to his regiment. Major Holman resigned his commission at the time he left the front, in August, 1861. His health was the reason made public, but the actual, underlying cause was jealousy manifested in the gross misrepresentation of certain facts. He had too keen a sense of honor and justice to retain an apparently false position, therefore he resigned, but with the hope and desire of being able to rejoin his regiment. He was subjected to much unjust criticism at home, accused of enlisting simply to induce others to do the same, and not from patriotic motives, and charged with cowardice and with seizing the first possible pretext for turning his back upon the enemy. He bore all these censures — these stigmas upon his character and courage — silently, because to tell the truth would have been to expose the unworthy conduct of others and their unjust treatment of him. He could endure reproach no matter what the cost to himself, but he could not stoop to retaliate. To “bear and forbear” was his invariable rule, and he indulged in no word of recrimination toward his accusers. He who has so far mastered himself as to be able to follow such a line of conduct as this undeviatingly has reached a high plane of living, and few attain it. To become a soldier did not change Major Holman’s genial nature; he was always the same polite and affable gentleman. He recognized nothing derogatory to the dignity of an officer in the holding of friendly intercourse with the ranks when proper occasions offered. He always had a kind and cheery greeting for everyone in his regiment, for the subalterns, the privates, and the servants. This simple and to him natural politeness gained for him the goodwill and affection of the men, but at the same time caused jealousy among a few of the higher officers, who doubtless wished themselves to gain the same goodwill of the men but were unable or unwilling to pursue the same course, and they were ungenerous and unmanly enough to plot his removal. During the very early days of the war, petty personal matters played often quite important parts in army life, and sometimes, as in this instance, were never properly adjusted, and the blame fell where it was undeserved; but later, in the days of real struggling and fighting and deadly suffering, these were mostly let to fall into oblivion. There was in reality never a shadow of reason to doubt Major Holman’s bravery or his true patriotism. This is the testimony of an officer in the Seventh Regiment, himself a brave and loyal man, and able to appreciate those qualities in another. It is from him that the facts in the case have been received, and it is with a real personal pleasure they are here given to the public.

The following resolutions, and their acknowledgment by Major Holman, speak for themselves: —

in the old school of politeness, when children were taught to treat their elders and superiors with respect, — to rise when their parents or elders entered a room where they were, “to bow to aged people and strangers in the streets, to formulate a polite speech when sent out on an errand, and to answer every one, even their own parents, with ‘yes, ma’am,’ and ‘yes, sir’”; but, back of and beyond all outward training and example was the something innate which made him one of “nature’s noblemen,” — a born gentleman.

His social qualities were very uncommon. The tones of his voice were musical and expressive, his choice of words apt, his language refined, and his mind was stored with countless incidents and experiences which he had the faculty of appropriating readily to whatever might be the subject of conversation. He made himself agreeable to young and old alike, and became a chief attraction in whatever circle he entered. His faculty for telling stories was indeed remarkable, and the fund was apparently inexhaustible. Each one had a special point, and fitted with such peculiar exactness the place into which he put it that it made a description perfect, which without it would have seemed unfinished, or a question discussed quite clear, that, wanting such an anecdote to explain it, might have been misunderstood. There is an old house in town at whose fireside in the years gone by Major Holman was a frequent and always a welcome visitor, for he and its owner were lifelong intimate friends. Again and again, after spending an hour or two there engaged in business talk or pleasant chat, he has risen and prepared to return home by putting on his greatcoat, but before he could get it buttoned some amusing anecdote would suddenly occur to him proper to relate just then and there, and this would pave the way for another and another and another, and leaning on the chimneypiece, hat in hand, he has told story after story, himself and his listeners thoroughly absorbed and interested and totally oblivious of the lapse of time until the clock-hands pointed closely to the small hours of the morning. His style was inimitable: it was quiet and not dramatic, and his face in repose was somewhat serious, but it was easily lighted up; and the playful twinkle of his eye as he proceeded with his tale, and his low but hearty laugh, spread an irresistible contagion of merriment all around.

Charming and entertaining as a guest, he was equally so as a host. From the first the “Holman house” has been known as an “open house,” one of general and generous entertainment. Among the pleasantest of the many pleasant records found on the clerk’s book of the Washington Rifle Corps are those relating to certain meetings just preceding the sham fight near the East village, which some of the old people still remember. Mr. Holman, then captain, announced to the company that on the day of the fight “they could dine at father’s,” and we are told that this invitation was gladly accepted and that some thirty or forty men sat down to a bountiful repast just before the battle. The mantle of the father fell upon the son, and the

reputation he established in this direction was well maintained. Indeed the hospitable doors of that mansion were never closed; a room in it was always ready for strangers, — clergymen or lecturers, whenever they might be, — while a large circle of relatives and friends were always gathering within its walls, as well as the simple acquaintances at home and from abroad. All who crossed that threshold received a cordial welcome which placed them at their ease, while host and hostess vied with each other in their charming, practical way to make the hours pass pleasantly for their guests. During many years this house was the centre of hospitality in the village, and sad indeed was that event which broke up this pleasant home and made those days of bright social intercourse only things of the past.

Mr. Holman was especially fond of his family and home, and the ties of kinship were with little pecuniary strong and binding. For thirty years he and his brother lived side by side — sometimes in the same house — with a loving fellowship and a close unanimity which are very rare. He had deep and decided religious feelings, but never fastidious, has never exactly after the pattern of any one special sect, and therefore never identified himself with any church as a member. His last illness, which was caused by a disease of the heart, confined him to the house about four weeks, but was not considered imminently fatal until two days before his death. His cheerfulness triumphed over all suffering; to the very last his mind needed bright remembrances, and his ready tongue responded, bringing smiles to the lips of physicians and attending friends, though all realized the seriousness of the situation. To such a man death is not a "king of terrors," but simply an inevitable experience to be met with the same undisturbed serenity as are the ordinary affairs of daily life. Major Holman died December 10, 1881, and thus one of the most honorable of men and one of the most worthy citizens the town has ever had passed away.

In 1848 he married Charlotte J. Balcom, who since his death has removed to New York City to reside. They had three children: a daughter, now dead young, and two sons. Of these S. Frank, the younger, is an artist, and for some years has spent the greater portion of his time in Paris, France, where he has had a pupil in *The New Englander*. His residence in this country is with his brother in New York. [He has attained a considerable reputation.]

D. EMORY HOLMAN, M.D., the older son, was born April 17, 1852. He attended the public schools in town, graduating at the High School, and then took the course at the Mowry & Goff Preparatory or Classical School, in Providence. He entered Brown University and graduated there with the degrees of A.B. and A.M. in 1876. He received his medical degree from the Long Island College Hospital in 1880. He was a Deputy Health Officer of Lower New York in 1884, and has since been a member of the Health Board of New York City, to which position he has been promoted by his profession during

the several years since he obtained his degree. In December, 1886, he married Sarah Palmer Round, daughter of Dr. Round, of Norton.

Handsome, brilliant, and accomplished, she had made for herself friends and admirers wherever she had been. During the few months of her residence in New York she had especially endeared herself to her new family by her lovely character, and by her attractive qualities she had won for herself numerous friends there and become a favorite to an unusual degree for one so young entering an entire stranger into the society of so large a city. She had more than common literary ability, as her contributions to the papers of a literary society of which she was a member showed, as well as her translations from foreign works. Bright anticipations of usefulness and happiness filled her future; but death soon "marked her for his own," and so swiftly and ruthlessly did he follow his fatal messenger of disease that its presence was scarcely realized before his final blow was struck. Human skill was powerless, and in a few hours the sparkling, heathful life had gone out struck down like a vigorous and beautiful flower blasted by the breath of some poisonous vapor. With the body of her infant son in her arms she was borne to her country home and thence to the Old Kirk Yard here, where in the gloom and chill of a sunless October afternoon she was laid in her grave. The sombre surroundings were fitting, for this spot so wonted to sad sights never witnessed a sadder burial than this, and we may be pardoned for placing here a word of tribute and an expression of sorrow for the sudden ending of this fair young life just as it had begun.

HORTON.

The first thing known of the Horton family is the fact that about 1610 three brothers of that name came to this country from England. One of these was John, who settled in Rehoboth and married Mehetabel Gamzey, by whom he had five sons and three daughters. Jotham, the second son and child, married a Miss Rounds and had seven children. Of these the third child and oldest son was James. He and a younger brother, Barnett, "lived in Rehoboth, and served in the Revolution, James being lieutenant." He was born July 18, 1741, and died August 10, 1833. He was a vigorous and active man, as is evidenced by the fact that he attained the remarkable age of ninety-two. His wife was Freelove Pierce, or Price, and they had eleven children, all of whom lived to be old, with the exception of two. Cromwell, the second son but eighth child, was born February 23, 1777, and died in 1861. He married Percy Martin and had seven children. Of these Gideon M. was the second son and child and was born in Rehoboth, May 1, 1804. He married Mary Smith, November 1, 1832, by whom he had four children: Everett S., Edwin J., Gideon M., and James J. His second wife was Mrs. Julia Jackson, of Middleborough, Mass. He died in this town — the first to settle here — March 7, 1861. "He was an upright man and honest citizen,

ever ready to aid and forward any good work. He kept a country store in Attleborough for years. He was never possessed of much of this world's goods, but gave his children the wealth of good living and the example of honest industry, coupled with true charity and Christian devotion, a legacy more precious than gold.

LYMAN SEYMOUR HORTON, of the sixth generation in this country, and the eldest child in his family, was born June 10, 1800. He attended school until he was sixteen, when he became assistant in his father's store. He occupied that position until the father's health failed, when he took entire charge of the business and continued it until after the breaking out of the war. On June 12, 1861, he was married to Mary Ann Carpenter, only daughter of Jesse R. and Mary Carpenter, of this town. Their only child was Mary F. born Mrs. Thomas Gordiner, of this town.

During the spring of 1862, having disposed of his business, Mr. Horton with others recruited a company of nine months' men, and on the election of its officers in September of the same year he became its second lieutenant, soon receiving his commission from Governor Andrew. His natural earnestness and resolution showed themselves in this new occupation, for he quickly mastered the drill and learned his duties as an officer. He went into camp with his company at Boxford, this State, where in September, 1862, they were mustered into the United States service as Company C, Forty-seventh Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. They were soon ordered to New York and into camp on Long Island, from thence, in December, embarking for New Orleans, La., where they arrived January 1, 1863, and were assigned with other regiments to provost duty in and around that city. Upon the resignation of the captain of Company C, which occurred about this time, Lieutenant Horton, "by a large majority of the votes of the company," was chosen his successor. This nine months' service was extended to nearly a year, for it was not until August, 1863, that Captain Horton reached home with his men. The following letters show the estimation in which he was held by his superior regimental officers:—

Boston, September 11th, 1863.

Capt. LYMAN S. HORTON:

Camp C, 47th Mass. Vol.

DEAR CAPT:

I thank you very much for the letter by which you have just given me notice of your departure from the service, and I think that the same will be the case with all the other companies of the regiment. I am sure that the whole of the regiment will be glad to hear of your departure, and I am sure that the whole of the regiment will be glad to hear of your departure.

Yours truly,
J. B. MASON, Capt.

JAMES B. MASON, Capt.
47th Mass. Vol.

Boston, Sept. 10th, 1863.

Captain,

I am glad to hear that you are going to the front, and I am sure that the whole of the regiment will be glad to hear of your departure, and I am sure that the whole of the regiment will be glad to hear of your departure.

in regard to the 47th Regiment and its conduct while in the department of the Gulf. May the choicest of heaven's blessings ever rest upon you and those who have been under your command is the prayer of

Your Obedt. Servant,

Lucius B. Marsh, Col.
47th. Mass. Vol.

To

E. S. Horton, Capt.
Co. C, 47th. Mass. Vol.

Very soon after his return came Governor Andrew's call for more troops, and Mr. Horton responded again, receiving a commission as second lieutenant and the position of recruiting officer for the Fifty-eighth Massachusetts Volunteers. He opened an office in town but was soon ordered to camp to take charge of recruits for the regiment there. Here he was commissioned "Capt. of Co. C, 58th. Reg. Mass. Vet. Vol." After about six months in camp at Readville he went to the front and became a participant in the memorable "Battles of the Wilderness." "After the battle of Cold Harbor, Lieut. Col. J. C. White, commanding the regiment, recommended Capt. Horton for promotion, and he was mustered into service as major. The commander of the regiment was wounded in a charge June 3d, and until Sept. 30, 1864, the command devolved on Maj. Horton. On the last mentioned day, while leading the regiment in action a few miles south of Petersburg, he was made a prisoner, and October 3d, reached Richmond and Libby." He was confined there until October 8, then sent to Salisbury, N. C., where he remained until the 19th, and finally to Danville, Va., where he was kept until January 27, 1865. At that time he was selected as a hostage and sent back to Libby, where on February 22, literally a birthday of freedom to him and his companions, he and many others were paroled and sent to the Union lines.

The following are his own words in describing the horrors of Libby: "Pen never can write the whole truth, and if it could be told, no one could believe that it was possible for men to survive it, or possible that any one in the 19th century could be guilty of such barbarities." Again his own words are given, describing his feelings when once more under the Union flag: "I can never forget that day, *never, NEVER, NEVER*. No one that has not experienced the same sensations can know aught of the peculiar emotions and thoughts that came in throngs in seeing and knowing that once more I was under the Star Spangled Banner. Under their influence I wrote this letter to my family from the deck of the flag-of-truce boat, where each of us was handed a sheet of paper and envelope. My family had not heard from me for five months, and the newspapers had reported me dead: "On board God's flag-of-truce boat, James River, Feb. 22, 1865. Dear Wife, — Out of the jaws of death, out of the gates of hell. Once more in the land of the living. Well. Love to all. Everett." He was granted a furlough of thirty days, was soon exchanged, and left home after a short visit to rejoin

his regiment in Virginia on the day that Petersburg was captured. He was soon ordered to Washington, where he was on duty until he was mustered out of service.

June 17, 1862, he was detailed as Division Inspector, Second Division, North Army Corps, by command of Horatio M. and General O. B. Willcox and John D. Bartleson, Assistant Adjutant General. The following letter speaks for itself:—

HQ. Qrs. 1st Division, 2nd Division, 2nd A. C. Corps,
Near Alexandria, Va.

July 24, 1862.

This is to certify that Major E. S. Horton commanded his regiment, the Mass. Vols., in the Battle of Bull Run, and on all occasions from June 17th to the capture of Fort Sumner, all time when he was actually in the front.

Dear Major:

It is with pleasure I extend to you this high appreciation for the very efficient and successful manner in which you and all members command your regiment, and the promptness and effectiveness with which you have performed your duty, whilst under my command.

With kind regards,

I remain, Very truly yours,

Jno. C. Curtin,
Br. Insp. General.

"During his service Major Horton received seven commissions, and was mustered into service on six of them. He was a gallant soldier, doing all his duty, and as an officer, with strict discipline, he looked well after the comfort of his men, and was universally popular both with officers and soldiers. There is in his nature that which indicates the impetuosity, dash, and rapidity of execution of a genuine military officer, with a coolness of judgment which prevents boldness from degenerating into rashness."

Shortly after the close of the war he became manager of the establishment of Davis & Cornell in Providence, the largest wholesale grocery house in Rhode Island, but continued his residence in this town. He remained in that position until 1880, when, by the death of his brother, a place in the firm of Horton, Angell & Co. became vacant, which he took and is now the senior partner in the concern. Since its organization he "has been much interested in the G. A. R. and has contributed largely in maintaining the thriving post established in Attleboro." He has been its commander several times and also commander of the Bristol County Association of the G. A. R. He is a commissioner of the Attleborough Water Supply District Sinking Fund, a trustee of the Religious Society Fund, has been secretary of the same, and is now its president; he is a director of the Attleborough Savings and Loan Association and president of the Attleborough Library Association.

His first wife died June 21, 1841. On September 24, 1849, he was married to Eliza Letitia Fremont, of Amherst, Mass., by whom he has had two children: Gertie E., born May 29, 1876, and Addie D., who died while an infant.

EDWIN J. HORROX, the second son, was born November 10, 1837. Of his boyhood and youth there is comparatively little to be said. He attended the public schools of the town, receiving no further advantages in the way of instruction, but he possessed an active mind, one bent on inquiry; and realizing the benefits of a good education, he determined to do the best he could in this direction for himself. With him a determination was also an accomplishment and he improved every opportunity for reading, study, and observation and "became in reality a thoroughly informed man." August 17, 1862, he enlisted in Company H, Fortieth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, and for three years was a good soldier, receiving his discharge June 17, 1865. This time excepted, his entire life was spent in his native village.

A few years after the close of the war the well-known firm of Horton, Angell & Co. was organized and started in manufacturing. Of this firm Mr. Horton was the senior member—may properly be called its originator—and to him, no doubt, its marked success and continued prosperity was in a large measure due. He was a member of many organizations and at various times held important offices in them. He was deeply interested in the Young Men's Christian Association and was its president at the time of his death; he was especially attached to the G. A. R. and to his own Post, faithful in the discharge of its duties, earnest in labors for its well-being, and a loved member of the order; he was a member of Ezekiel Bates Lodge of F. and A. M. and of the Royal Arcanum, and at the time of his death was Noble Grand of Orient Lodge, I. O. O. F. He was a member of the Second Congregational Church, thoroughly interested in its welfare and foremost in its benevolent enterprises.

May 8, 1862, he married Addie Lee, by whom he had two children. The elder died when quite young, before the father; the younger, Raymond M., is still living. He spared neither time nor money to make his home attractive, and to the influences emanating from that home the position he attained in the community was in no small measure due. In 1879 he represented the town in the Legislature and was a member of the House Committee on Health. In all municipal affairs he was an active participant and ever urging forward works of progress and reform. His principles were known of men and he was firm in his adherence to them. Having made up his mind to the right of a position or course of action, he boldly advocated the one and unswervingly followed the other. Such a man must make his mark in his community but he inevitably gains at least political enemies, as was the case with Mr. Horton, though the fact that he was elected to one of the highest offices in the power of his fellow-citizens to bestow—an election "won in one of the severest political contests ever recorded for this town"—is undeniable proof that he possessed the respect and confidence of a majority.

June 11, 1880, he was drowned in that awful disaster which followed the collision of the Sound steamers, Narragansett and Stonington. His funeral

This work of charity and liberality has by no means ceased, but is nobly and loyally carried on by his wife, though often so quietly as to be known only to those who are personally benefited. "No member of the House of Representatives shared more largely in the esteem and confidence of the other members of that body than Mr. Horton; and no speaker was listened to with closer attention."

"He had his failings, and none knew them better than his friends, but his virtues far out-weighed them, and endeared him to the hearts of most with whom he came in contact." His death occurred in one of the world's awful tragedies, and it left a wide gap in the ranks of our active, worthy citizens, a vacant place "hard to fill."

GIDEON M. HORTON, the third son, was born September 26, 1839. Like his brothers, he attended the town schools, which were his only means of instruction, and like the two older ones he entered the army, serving in the Tenth Rhode Island Battery. He was one of the original members of the firm of Horton, Angell & Co., and became a prosperous business man. He manifested his public spirit by erecting, at a cost of fully \$36,000, the business block bearing his name, for, while it and its fellows are primarily business enterprises, they adorn their surroundings, and this one especially adds to the attractive appearance of the village of Attleborough.

Mr. Horton was a member of Bristol Lodge of F. and A. M.; of King Hiram Chapter of Attleborough Council, and of Bristol Commandery; of the Royal Arcanum and Pennington Lodge, A. O. U. W. He was also a member of Orient Lodge, I. O. O. F., its first Noble Grand, and a member of Naomi Encampment of Taunton. He was a trustee of the Farmers and Mechanics Association and an active and efficient member, a director of the First National Bank, and belonged to the Merchants and Manufacturers Association and to William A. Streeter Post, G. A. R. "For some years he had been detailed on Memorial Day with his friend and companion, Mr. Fred. Newell, to decorate graves in some of the districts difficult to get at, and it will be with genuine grief, that his comrades, on next Memorial Day, will place the flag and flowers above his grave."

For some years previous to his death he had been interested in stock-raising, and was one of the owners in a large cattle-ranch in Dryden, Pecos County, Texas. This ranch contains some 6,000 acres, and has on it about 5,000 head of cattle and 1,000 horses. Mr. Horton owned and controlled a fourth part. About twelve or thirteen years ago he began to experience the first admonitions of failing health, but no very serious results followed until three or four years since, when the presence of disease in the lungs unmistakably manifested itself. After this time he took extended journeys in various directions, in that way avoiding the rigors of New England winters and receiving some degree of benefit from these changes, the climate of such places as Mexico, California, and the Sandwich Islands proving agreeable

and a feeble constitution. More important than to the former, assured a few months before his death, and he was ordered to duty. New England as soon as possible. Delays from one cause or another, however, occurred, and when at last he was ready for the necessary journey it was too late to expect any brilliant or decided movements. Mr. Horton was himself aware of this, but realising that it is everyone's duty to live as long as he possibly can, he made all the necessary preparations, arranged his business affairs, and finally started to meet the death he felt soon awaited him, but might be a little longer delayed in a milder clime. The man who cheerfully speaks parting words with his dearest friends, and, looking for the last time on familiar scenes and loved faces, turns from them hopeless, yet with a smile, to seek the almost impossible lengthening of his life, has in him something of the heroic, and Mr. Horton did this. He had attained success at middle life; he had made for himself a beautiful home, and he could rightly look forward to many years of enjoyment in it and to years of usefulness in his community, in the sharing, as he did generously, of the results of his industry with those about him. To give up such hopes requires courage, and he possessed it, for he fought out the fight, and could say to his friends calmly, even cheerfully, in view of the end, that it was well.

Accompanied by physician and intimate friend he pursued his journey south and arrived safely at San Antonio, Texas. Here he rallied sufficiently for the doctor to leave him, but very soon after the last fatal symptoms appeared and the end came speedily. He died in San Antonio, December 16, 1886. His body was brought home, and the funeral services attended at his late residence on December 23 following. Agreeably to his wish the ceremonies were very simple, but the attendance of people was general and the mourning sincere. His pastor, Rev. H. A. Philbrook, conducted the services, assisted by Rev. Walter Burton, and he was buried at Woodlawn.

November 22, 1861, he married Helen T. White, of this town. She died August 28, 1881. Their two daughters, Mary and Mabel Horton, survive, and reside in town.¹ Mr. Horton was highly esteemed as a public-spirited and useful man, and he was a man of many friends. His nature was retiring, and he was entirely without ambition for public preferment, but always shared liberally in whatever way he could in the advancement both of his community and town. He was generous in the societies to which he belonged, and in supplying the wants of the needy around him. Probably no man in town did more quiet, unseen deeds of real charity than he. One writes thus: "It is easy to say the familiar words, that it is hard to find a man that will be more missed when departed, but in the case of Gideon M. Horton the words have a special application. It is hard to speak too strongly of Mr. Horton's exal-

¹ His daughter married Joseph H. Smith, Jr. and resided in Amesbury, Mass. She married Frederick Smith, of Providence, Rhode Island.

lence, or of the estimation in which he was held by all who knew him. He made all feel as though he was interested in them, and seemed to be eager for an opportunity to help. A good and a useful man has gone. It will be a long time before the town will have a better man, or a better citizen."

JAMES J. HORTON, the youngest of these four brothers, was born in Providence, October 19, 1841, during a temporary residence of his father in that city. His birth occurred under the old charter granted by King Charles the Second to the "Rhode Island and Providence Plantations." This last charter was granted in 1663 and continued to be the constitution of the State for a hundred and seventy-nine years, until 1842, when after the Dorr insurrection it was given up. In that year Mr. Horton returned to his former residence in this town, James being then about a year old. Like his brothers he received his education here, but he had the pleasure of being a pupil of Mr. Bailey, under whom and Mr. Allen his schooldays were finished. After this he worked for a year on his father's farm, but for some time subsequent he was unable to engage in work of any kind, owing to the failure of his health, and his courage and determination to conquer his feebleness and the disease that attacked him have been remarkable, and many prophesied impossible.

Upon recovering in a measure he started in mercantile business in Providence, but finally entered the jewelry business in this town, where he is a member of the firm of Short, Nerney & Co. Like his brothers he has been prosperous, and like them he makes good use of his money. He is a member of Orient Lodge, I. O. O. F., and a director in the First National Bank. Mr. Horton's disposition is, like his brother Gideon's, retiring, and he deprecates prominence for himself in any way, for the sake of prominence; but he fulfils the duties that devolve upon him with fidelity. He has made for himself an excellent reputation as a man of integrity and reliability in business affairs, — one of good judgment and equally to be trusted in all other matters, — while his courteous manners and affable bearing make him an agreeable social companion and friend. January 12, 1869, he married Emily Howland Clark, of Middleborough, Mass. They have no children.

It is somewhat singular that these four brothers — the entire family — should all have settled for life in their native town, all finally have engaged in the same business, and all become successful in it. It is singular too that all made homes for themselves on the same street, within "a stone's throw" of the old homestead and of each other. The site of this homestead is occupied by the residence of James, the old house having been moved away, but not destroyed. It is still kept and well cared for, valued as a relic of the past, and especially prized for its many personal associations. There are, too, rather peculiar similarities and contrasts in the men themselves. The two older ones were bold and fearless, men of "push" and stirring vigor, characteristics which their experiences of army life doubtless intens-

subject) while the two younger ones were inquisitive and shrank from all public or prominent activity, though neither was lacking in courage or independence, which both could show in a more unobtrusive way. The two middle ones are gone, while the eldest and youngest remain and live side by side. In these days of restless longing to get far away from home to seek fortune it is a pleasure to note one family of boys that grew up together who were fond enough of their native place and to each other to attempt life there together, and it is a pleasure also to note their success.

HUNT.

REV. SAMUEL HUNT was born at the village of Fanesville, in this town, March 18, 1819. The family were of English origin, the ancestors who came to this country settling first at Weymouth. Some of them came from there to Rehoboth among the early settlers of that town, and one of the name was the owner of one of the original shares of the Rehoboth North Purchase, and no doubt some of his descendants came to this town. Mr. Hunt's father was Deacon Richard Hunt, of the Oldtown Church, and in his family, which consisted of four sons and one daughter, he was the oldest. He assisted his father on the farm in his childhood days, but he had been consecrated by that father to the ministry and his education was therefore commenced and completed with that end in view. He was educated partly at a classical school at West Attleborough, kept by a Mr. Wheaton, a graduate of Brown University. It was here that he commenced the study of the languages, and while in this school — in the long past — the writer of this brief memoir recalls that he sat for most of the time by Mr. Hunt's side. After this he completed his preparatory studies at the Wrentham Academy. He entered Amherst College in 1828, and graduated in the class of 1832, the first graduate from this town at that institution.

He commenced teaching at the early age of sixteen, and continued this occupation, in which he was most successful, through his college course and for some time after his graduation. He taught in the academies at Southampton, Mass., and Southampton, L. I., and after this commenced his theological studies at Princeton, completing them with Rev. Dr. Ide, in West Medway. He was licensed to preach in August, 1838, and after supplying the pulpit at Mansfield, the adjoining town, he was installed as pastor over the Congregational Church at Natick, in this State. Here he remained eleven

years. In December, 1849, he was installed over the church in Ipswich, where he was pastor about fourteen years — over the same society where the eminent Dr. Emmons officiated so long. After this Mr. Hunt retired from the pastoral ministry and became engaged in the service of the American Missionary Society, and labored for three years in establishing schools for the education of the freedmen. He worked with persistent and conscientious zeal in the temperance cause, and every mission work found in him "an earnest ally."

From a published notice of his death the following extracts are made:—

“In the early years of his ministry he accepted the doctrines of the Abolitionists and became the outspoken friend of the slave; and that, too, at a time when it meant much, even personal persecution and violence to espouse the cause, and openly oppose the claims of the slave-holding States. It was in this connection that his friendship with Henry Wilson arose, when, as young men, they commenced laboring together for the overthrow of slavery.”

“In 1868, Mr. Hunt accepted the position of clerk of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs, of which his old friend Henry Wilson was chairman. He retained this position until Mr. Wilson became Vice-President, when he became his private secretary. With Mr. Wilson he remained until the former's death. With him he planned and wrote the *Rise and Fall of the Slave Power in America*, a work requiring great research and years of patient labor. This work was not completed when Mr. Wilson died. The writing of the third volume with the arrangement of the index devolved upon Mr. Hunt alone.”

After finishing this work he made preparations to publish a collection of Henry Wilson's writings and letters, with a sketch of his political life, and had projected and worked upon several other books. While in Franklin he compiled and published the “*Puritan Hymn and Tune Book*,” and for many years previous to his death he had written much for the public press.

Mr. Hunt married Mary Foster, daughter of Major Josiah Foster, of Southampton, L. I., who died in that place December 20, 1849. They had five children: M. Agnes, Samuel C., Benjamin F., Abby C., and Eliot, of whom only the two daughters survive. Samuel was a soldier of the Civil War—enlisted in Franklin, was a sergeant in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteers, and died in Phoenix, Arizona, July 9, 1877. On April 11, 1853, Mr. Hunt married Mrs. Abby B. Slocum, who died in Franklin, April 24, 1862. His third wife, whom he married June 12, 1877, was Mrs. R. T. Homer, of Boston, who survives him. After his last marriage he resided in Boston, where he died July 23, 1878. “In his private life he was respected by all who knew him for his quiet, dignified and gentlemanly bearing. Dying, he leaves a large circle of friends who hold him in the highest esteem. His life closed with nothing left undone; with nothing done to be regretted.” His funeral services were attended in the church at West Attleborough, of which he was a member, by Rev. John Whitehill, the pastor, assisted by Rev. Jacob Ide, of Mansfield, and thus he returned to his old home to sleep well, after life's fitful fever was over.

ELIOT HUNT, son of Samuel and Mary Foster Hunt, was born in Natick, this State, May 22, 1847. His name was in memory of that famous apostle to the Indians, John Eliot, who was one of the early settlers of Natick. Mr. Hunt's boyhood was passed at Franklin, where his father was for so long

and could comment intelligently upon local questions. He was acquainted with all. He had assisted at their weddings and paid the last sad tribute of respect to their dead. There are few men in town with whom he had not at some time been brought into intimate relations. The files of the *CHRONICLE* for the past ten years testify how intimately Eliot Hunt has been associated with all the local events and questions of that period — how much bread he had cast upon the waters to be found after many days, too often without any recognition from the finder. Yet he was esteemed in life and honored in death, a circumstance that weighs more in the case of a journalist than with any one else, because his vocation leads him sooner or later to reveal to the public *all* of his character. Every selection he makes, every line he writes discloses something of himself. Hence the high place Mr. Hunt held in the community was richly and securely won. He had stood the critical test of a public half-knowledge of him, and as he became the more thoroughly known was the more thoroughly beloved. He who would succeed to his place must first be tried as by fire to prove whether or not he shall likewise be worthy of public confidence.

It should be observed that for six seasons Mr. Hunt experienced and shared all the vicissitudes in fortune, and all the hardships of the farmer's life, and so was ever after in sympathy with farmers as a class, and interested in their calling. He was connected with the Attleboro Farmers and Mechanics Association from its beginning in 1868; his name stands fifth among the signers to its constitution, and he served as secretary during the first four years of its existence. We can well believe that his affection for this institution, fostered for five years in the ranks of practical agriculture, did not lessen when his position on the *CHRONICLE* gave him opportunity for a wider influence. It is safe to say that no man during the fifteen years the association has been organized has had its interests more closely at heart or done more by voice, pen and hand to promote them than Eliot Hunt. Year after year, the columns of his paper were devoted to making each annual fair a success — suggesting new attractions, urging better appliances, pointing out its claims to patronage, and when it was over, deducing from its merits and defects lessons for its future conduct. He worked as zealously as he wrote. In the meetings of the association, on committees and at each exhibition he was never too busy or too feeble to give to the uttermost both of his time and his strength. And he was not without his reward, for no member will deny that the present excellent standing of the Farmers and Mechanics Association is a monument to his memory.

He became connected with his paper "soon after it entered on its second year, and its issue of April 12th, 1873, bears at the head of its local column: 'Eliot Hunt, local editor.' The files show that the amount of news in his department doubled almost immediately." The paper passed through several hands, and finally March 1, 1879, "the firm became Eliot Hunt & Co., and so continued without variation, either in style or constitution, until the death of the leading partner." Mr. Hunt made several important changes, and improved the facilities "for business by enlarging his paper from a folio to its present quarto form. A steady growth has characterized the paper since his connection with it. He was interested with Mr. Greene in originating and publishing the humorous *Benjamin Franklin Prince*, which has been read, laughed over and imitated throughout the land.

Mr. Hunt had a remarkable love for the town of Attleborough. He admired its people and institutions. He rejoiced in its prosperity and was ever jealous of its reputation. Anything reflecting on its fair name found quick and sharp refutation in the columns of his paper. But if there was one part of the town that he loved more than another it was the section where he and his ancestry had found a home. He loved the farm that his father and grandfather had tilled, and where he, too, had woven, in the mystic web of daily toil, ties of affection for every stone and tree and field. He loved the little church at Oldtown, the church where his grandfather was deacon for more than forty years and his father nurtured for the sacred offices of the Christian ministry. The yearly fund pledged by his grandfather for the support of the gospel in that place was, at his father's death, assumed by him and paid regularly to the last.

"It follows without saying that such a man had a deep affection for family and kin," an affection tender and measureless for wife and children. His "immediate circle of relatives had been so afflicted that he was the only young, able man remaining. They found him a ready adviser, and prompt to assist where age or sex imposed its hindrances. How often he lifted perplexity and care from the brow of age and laid them willingly upon his own strong but overburdened heart,

CHAPTER XVII.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES, CONCLUDED.

HON. ELISHA MAY, a short sketch of whom may be found on a preceding page, was the first of his name in town. He came from Barrington and settled in the west part of the town. He had eleven children, of whom the youngest was named Tully and was born May 24, 1787. He was a farmer like his father, but unlike him was a quiet, retiring man, showing no disposition for publicity or any kind of official preferment. This was simply lack of desire, not because he was wanting in capacity. It is said "he had strong political preferences, being an old-fashioned Whig." His wife was Hannah Gay, who was born October 6, 1791, and died March 28, 1875, at the advanced age of eighty-four. Mr. May died June 19, 1872, having attained the age of eighty-five. They had four children: Cynthia, Mrs. Carlos Barrows, widow; Elisha G. and Henry F., all residing in West and South Attleborough; and Catherine, deceased.

ELISHA GAY MAY was born October 6, 1812. He was brought up on a farm with the expectation that he would become a farmer, and he received only the amount of schooling given at that time to the average country boy — an amount that was comparatively little more than the ordinary knowledge of "reading, writing, and ciphering." When he became of age and had the right to decide for himself he made up his mind to learn a trade, and fixed upon that of button-making. He followed the calling of a journeyman in that line for three years, and then returned to his father's farm and took up again the old occupation, which he followed for a number of years. In 1854 he entered the firm of William H. Robinson & Co., which was engaged in the manufacture of plated and gilt jewelry. Four years later this firm was dissolved, and once more Mr. May became a farmer, this time permanently; and he has been a good and successful one, though his farm is not large. His comfortable, typical New England home is near the Oldtown Church, and its pleasant "yard" has been the scene of many social gatherings and entertainments arranged with some charitable end in view.

In October, 1839, he married Ann Janette, the daughter of James and Sarah Perry Draper, of this town. She was of a family whose tracings can be followed back for many generations, even in New England. As a citizen Mr. May has always been worthy of the confidence and esteem of his townsmen, and he possesses both in a high degree. The same uprightness of principle and integrity of character for which the grandfather was distin-

Co. This was in 1870, and in 1872 this firm came to North Attleborough, where they did a successful business and one which constantly increased. During the latter years of his life Mr. Merritt spent a considerable portion of his time in New York in connection with his business, but he purchased a home in North Attleborough, and his family resided there. His wife was Marietta Aldrich, by whom he had two children — Clara R.¹ and Henry D. “As a business man, Mr. Merritt was very successful. He carried into every department a methodical mind, untiring industry, and sterling honesty. In private life he was a man of quiet, unassuming manners, unexceptionable habits, and upright in his intercourse with others.”

ALFRED PIERCE is a descendant of the Pierce family of Rehoboth, who were among the early settlers of that town. Barnard Pierce was a well-respected citizen there. Jeremiah, his son, was born there August 29, 1786. He was a successful carpenter and farmer, “honorable and upright, and a useful, much loved citizen.” He married Candace Wheeler, November 9, 1806, by whom he had eleven children, ten of whom are still living. Mr. Pierce died in 1837 and Mrs. Pierce in 1882, she “having attained the remarkable age of ninety-three years and eighteen days.” [One or two of the children have since died.]

Alfred, the son of Jeremiah and the subject of this sketch, was born in Rehoboth, December 31, 1821. His schools afforded his only education and at fifteen he was apprenticed “to learn the carpenter’s trade.” He commenced life for himself at the age of nineteen, as a carpenter, in Pawtucket. After staying there about four years he went back to his native town and engaged in farming in connection with the work of his trade. He was occupied in that way for two years, when he came to Attleborough and attended exclusively to the business of carpentering until 1851, when the “gold fever” attacked him and he went to California. He worked in the mines there for a year and a half, and then went to Melbourne, Australia. Here he worked in the mines about ten months, and met with the same comparative success he had had in California. At the end of that time he started for home, stayed a few weeks in Aspinwall on the way and did some carpenter work, and then came back to this town. Since then he has remained here, with the exception only of eighteen months passed in Illinois.

In 1869 Mr. Pierce associated with himself Arthur B. Carpenter, of this town, forming a firm to conduct the business of lumber merchants and coal dealers. Pierce & Carpenter have been and still are successful, and for many years have been doing quite an extensive business in their lines. Mr. Pierce is himself quite a large real estate owner. He built one of the business blocks in East Attleborough, one in which some of the most attractive

¹ She married Mr. Horace P. Kent, of Portsmouth, N. H. He is now a resident of North Attleborough.

stones in the village are located and which may be described as a "village improvement." On December 6, 1860, he was married to Martha R. Williams, the daughter of Thomas and Polly Richardson Williams, of this town. Their only child is Marion W. Porter. [Now Mrs. Miles Carter.]

BRENTON PORTER, JR., is a native of Charlestown, N. H., where he was born February 22, 1827. His paternal grandfather was Asahel Carpenter Porter, a farmer from Coventry, Conn., and his maternal grandfather was John Garfield, a lineal descendant of the Garfields who early settled in Spencer, Mass. He is a son of Burdell and Susan Garfield Porter, and is the eldest of a family of nine children, all of whom reached the age of maturity, and most of whom are now living industrious and useful lives. Mr. Porter was brought up on his father's farm, attending the public schools of Longden, N. H., and preparing for college at the academies in Westport and Saxton's River, Vt. In March, 1853, he entered Dartmouth College more than a year in advance of his class, and graduated in 1856.

He chose for most arduous but equally honorable profession, that of a teacher, and followed it with success for twenty-three years. "During this time he was principal of academies at Canaan, Alstead, and Swansea, N. H., teacher of public schools in Cleveland and Fostoria, Ohio, and principal of high schools in Braintree and this town, (in Massachusetts). He was the first principal of the North High School, and held that position twelve years and a half, during which time there were graduated from the school one hundred and thirty students." He resigned this position in 1879. During that year "he was elected selectman and assessor, and appointed collector of taxes." In 1880 he was appointed as assessor of the poor. "He was elected representative for the First District, which includes the towns of Attleborough, North Attleborough, and Mansfield, in the Legislature of Massachusetts, for the year 1881, when the public statutes were adopted." He was a member of the first committee which served when the North Attleborough Library Association was formed and became a member of the prudential committee of the Union Improvement District, which now supports the library "as a free and public" institution. Mr. Porter is connected with the First Universalist Society in town, has been on its parish committee and treasurer of its funds. He was one of the building committee of the parish during the erection of the new church and parsonage four or five years ago. He received the appointment of postmaster for the village of North Attleborough several years since and continues to occupy the position.¹ He has connected himself thoroughly with the town and her interests, taken up the duties of a good citizen with intelligence and performed them with fidelity. He prepared a very interesting account on the rise and progress of the town

¹ His successor, Mrs. George W. Porter, was elected on the 10th of August, 1885.



1. Residence of Elizar L. Hnon.
2. Residence of Oscar M. Dwyer.
3. Residence of Henry P. Barrows.
4. Residence of Elton L. Franklin.
5. Residence of William E. Smith.
6. "Round House" built by Albert C. Tift, now rectory of St. Mary's Parish.
7. Residence of Edward R. Price.

schools, etc., in Attleborough, which was published in the sketch of our history in the History of Bristol County, and various quotations from it are made in the similar chapter of this work.

PRICE.

EDWARD PRICE was born in Birmingham, England, November 19, 1776. He came to this country in 1791, and either immediately after his arrival or in a very short time, to this town, for it was only two years after, in 1796, that he married Sarah, the daughter of Daniel and Sarah Woodcock Daggett, of Attleborough. He had been a button manufacturer in his native country and skilled in the trade. He brought machinery with him from England, and was the first to make buttons in these parts, if not in all America. He lived in the East village for a while, doing business near there, and then returned to North Attleborough. In 1811 he was induced to engage in cotton manufacturing, but it proved an unsuccessful venture. Subsequently he became a large real estate owner.

GEORGE PRICE, the second son of the above, was born in North Attleborough, November 14, 1806, probably in a house that then stood on the site of Wamsutta Block. "The early death of his father made the boyhood of George Price a laborious one. From the night when the father was suddenly stricken down, and he ran out, jacket in hand, after a physician, his life was one of care, activity and responsibility. One year in the common school constituted his educational advantages. He carried on the farm in his early years, and found time as well to work at brass-founding." When the jewelry business became prominent and promising in town he decided to engage in that, and began by serving an apprenticeship with the firm of Draper, Tift & Co. In time he became a manufacturer and the first known partner was Calvin Richards. He built the shop which still stands opposite his late residence—a pretty spot not far from the centre of the Falls village on a road leading over Mount Hope hill. This was the third jewelry shop ever built in town, and though now a small one was then considered very large. His partner in the new shop was S. S. Daggett and their specialty fire-gilt jewelry. Mr. Price continued there for six years, but retired in 1856 and resumed the care of his farm, to which meanwhile he had made large additions.

He was now fifty years old, and up to this time had held no public offices, but from this time forward until his death he was constantly in one or more positions of responsibility. "His career shows that twenty-five years after fifty is just as long as twenty-five years before, and that some men can employ both to equal advantage." In 1855 the question as to the advisability of dividing the town arose and Mr. Price was chairman of a committee to consider and report upon the matter. The report was favorable—the reason given that the voters numbered over a thousand and were therefore not easy

to manage property, but Mr. Price considered it wise, even in view of that fact herein, and he declined to sign the report. From 1860 to 1869 he was selectman, assessor, and overseer of the poor, and the three following years town treasurer. He was returned to the latter office in 1869 and kept it during the rest of his life. In the winter of 1877-78 he was a representative at the General Court. He was most earnest and active in the formation of the Farmers and Merchants Association and held the office of its president from the commencement in 1869 until 1877. He was among the first to take the necessary steps toward securing permanent associations for the uses of the association, and to him it was largely indebted for its present fine grounds and commodious buildings. He labored earnestly to relieve the association of its debt, devoting much time and money to that purpose. He entered the Washington Rifle Corps as a private and rose through every grade of rank to that of its captain, and was the last who held that office.

One says: "If we were to select one trait of character for which Mr. Price was especially remarkable, it would be his activity, honesty, and fidelity to what he believed to be right. His mental activity was wonderful, and ceased only with his life. His honesty made him not less exacting with himself than with others. His accounts were always correct, his dealings always square. Crookedness in others he considered absolutely without excuse, and dishonesty of any kind he despised beyond measure. He was not hasty in his judgments, but a conclusion once reached by what seemed to him sufficient data was rarely abandoned. He was faithful to his convictions. This is illustrated by his adherence to the doctrines of the old Whig party; he voted the Republican ticket as the least objectionable alternative; but at heart he was a loyal Whig to the last." He "upheld the fundamental principles of Christianity," but did not accept the peculiar dogmas of any special denomination.

In October, 1837, he was married to Maria Quaker, Grant of Saugus, Mass., and this union lasted above fifty years. They had nine children: MARY S.; MRS. J. D. Paine, deceased; GEORGE G.; SARAH A.; MRS. S. N. Newcomb; WILLIAM M.; CORISANDE, Mrs. George A. Brock, deceased; MARY G., deceased; EDWARD R.; CAROLINE T., Mrs. Roswell Blackinton, of this town; and ALICE M. Mr. Price died July 19, 1882, having lived a long and useful life, and leaving a stainless record to be cherished, not only by his sons and daughters, but by his community, and the whole town whose best interests he had at heart, and for which he labored during many years.

EDWARD R. PRICE was born October 9, 1846. After attending the public schools here he entered the Green Mountain Institute at South Woodstock, Vt., where he completed his school education. At the age of nineteen, in 1865, he entered the Attleborough Bank as clerk, remaining in that position for five years. In 1870, when but twenty-four years of age, he was elected cashier of the bank, a significant fact, one which in a word gives his char-

acter, capacity, and reputation. In April, 1872, he became the treasurer of the Attleborough Savings Bank, and these two positions he still retains, the former as that of the North Attleborough National Bank under a new charter granted in 1885. He holds these positions now, as always, with the perfect confidence of those associated with him officially, and of the entire community and town. Mr. Price seems to have inherited in large measure the strict integrity and unassailable honesty of his father, and the same perfect correctness in business dealings and operations. No stronger proof of this could be given than the statement of his election at so early an age to a position of large financial trust, and his retention of the same through so many consecutive years, especially when, as is the case, those years have been full of alluring temptations in the money-getting line, when thousands of fortunes have been made in a day, though in ways the fathers never dreamed of. Really the men of to-day who resist the temptation to make money a little faster than the old legitimate methods enable them to do, particularly when they have the constant handling of large sums, even though these belong to other people, deserve great credit, and Attleborough can point to the record of her two cashiers with no inconsiderable degree of confident satisfaction.

Mr. Price holds various local offices: is clerk of the First Universalist Parish, treasurer of the North Attleborough Water Company, etc., and he is also vice-president of the Manhattan Cattle Company of Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory. He is a member of Aurora Lodge, and prominent in Bristol Lodge F. and A. M., and is one of its Past Masters. He is thoroughly interested in this ancient organization and in all that pertains to its history. Through his instrumentality the valuable old charter of the lodge has been suitably and carefully framed and thus perserved from destruction. He is, too, thoroughly interested in his town, in her reputation and status, both past and present. He wished these to continue single, not double, and he did all he could to prevent division. He is to be ranked among Attleborough's best citizens. His courteous manners make him agreeable as an associate and friend; his business experience makes his judgment worthy of reliance; and his character commands and obtains the respect of everybody.

December 29, 1869, he married Ella M. Jillson, of South Attleborough. Their only child is a daughter, Mary Daggett Price.

READ.

The Read family traces its genealogy back many hundreds of years to 1139, when one "Briannus de Reed" was "a noted man of Lincolnshire, England." From his two sons, "Robert of Reed, and Thomas of Reeddale," the family has descended. The records mention one "William Rede an eminent mathematician, who in 1569 was made Bishop of Chichester." One John Read, born in 1598, with a brother, William, born in 1596, came

to this country in Governor Winthrop's fleet in 1629. John lived in Dorchester, Braintree, and Weymouth, and in 1641 came to Rehoboth. He was a freeman, probably the one admitted in 1649, and had held responsible positions in Massachusetts Colony. He was one of the original proprietors of Rehoboth and a man of substance, for he was "taxed on three hundred pounds, a very large estate for those days." He held various offices of trust, was an active and influential man in both civil and religious affairs, and from the first "a leading citizen." He attained great length of days and died at the age of eighty-seven. It is said of his numerous descendants that "as a body, they are worthy, law-abiding, and industrious, being bound to their noble pioneer ancestor." John had a son Daniel, and a grandson of the same name who came to this town, about 1710, with five children. By his second wife, whose name was Eli, he had eight children, of whom the eldest was also named Daniel. He had a son Levi, of the fourth generation from John, who was born in 1762. He was an honest, industrious farmer and led a quiet, unpretending, but useful life. He was a deacon in the First Congregational Church at Oxbow for sixty years; was earnest and faithful in church affairs and generous towards all objects of benevolence. His wife was Nancy Hunt, of this town, and they had eight children. Mr. Read died in 1853, "having attained the remarkable age of ninety-one years, and left the record of an untroubled life of Christian activity and good works."

HENRY CLIFFORD READ is a descendant of this family, the son of Isaac, and he was born May 8, 1810, on the spot where he now lives. He received only a common-school education, "taught two terms," and was a farmer at home until he was about twenty-one. He learned the trade of a machinist and worked at it about three years in Worcester and Providence. When quite young he married Eunice D. Tyler, of this town, by whom he had two children, both of whom, with the mother, are dead. Many years ago Mr. Read went to Illinois and spent ten years in that State as a farmer. Then he returned to his old home here, the place which has been in the family since his grandfather's time. January 3, 1856, he was married to Mrs. Abbie H. Sherman, daughter of Shadrac Davis, of New Bedford, Mass., by whom he has had two children, Henry C. and Rufus C.

Like many of his townsmen Mr. Read was a Whig, and is a Republican. He had been a member, and a member of the State Legislature. He has discharged the duties of these and other positions well, thereby proving himself a worthy citizen and gaining the respect of his fellow-citizens. He shows himself ready to aid every good work. He formerly held the "faith of his fathers," but of later years has accepted the doctrine of Spiritualism. He and his father's family have been strong temperance men, using neither liquor nor tobacco in any form.

A son of Mr. Read by his first wife, Samuel T. Read, was captain on General Butler's staff at the beginning of the war of the Rebellion, at

General Butler's own request. He raised a company in Boston, entered the service, and reached the rank of colonel. After the war he married and settled in Natchez, Miss., where he died in 1880.

CLEMENT O. READ, an older brother of Henry C., "was the pioneer in the screw business." His first essay was in the manufacture of wood screws in the mill called "the City Factory," or the "Attleborough City Mill," once owned by Daniel Read & Co., and with machinery of his own invention. "His pecuniary means being limited, he associated Rhode Island capitalists with him, and removed his works to Providence, at the corner of Hewes and Charles streets, where the American Screw Company's mills are now. The difficulty of putting a new article upon the market at a price within the reach of the consumers was an obstacle that the company could not overcome, and Mr. Read suffered the loss of what money he put into the business. But this enterprise has since grown, and the screws manufactured by the company that grew out of this effort of our worthy and ingenious townsman have acquired a world-wide reputation."

Mr. Read was a thorough mechanic, and the inventor of a large number of useful pieces of mechanism. He lived a "long, exemplary, and useful life." He died at Perth Amboy, New Jersey, to which place he had some time previously removed, at the age of seventy-nine, a man who had been a good citizen and true friend, and one "whose memory will be revered and loved by all who knew him."

RICHARDS.

THOMAS RICHARDS was the first of this name known in this country, and he was born in Dorchester, England, about the year 1590. According to a history of the family, he "was a man of standing in the mother country, and one of the principal men in the new. He was a merchant, and dignified by the title of 'Mr.,' a high honor in colonial days." He was a descendant of James Richards, of Somerset County, and of Sir Richard Richards, "Lord Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer and often President of the House of Lords," who was possessor of a manor-house which is still standing in Wales, and whose family were called "ancient possessors" as early as 1550. Thomas Richards had several children. A son, John, "Worshipful and Major," and an eminent man of his time, married a daughter of Governor Winthrop; one daughter, Mary, married Thomas Hinckley, Governor of Plymouth; another, Alice, married Major William Bradford, Deputy Governor of Plymouth; and there were other children.

Edward Richards, from whom those in this town are descended, was a nephew of Thomas, and settled in Dedham about 1635, being one of the "principal planters" of that town. He was a prominent man there, a freeman, a blameless church member, and a man of large property. He was elected selectman nine years consecutively. John, the son of Edward, was

being married, and died in Dedham. His son John married there also, and lived on his father's homestead. One of his sons was a physician, a colonel, and a leading citizen of that town. Another son, John, married Abigail Avery, and two of their sons, Edward and Nathan, were the first of the name who came to Attleborough. All the records show that the family were for many generations the possessors of wealth and high social position. They were gentlemen by birth, education, and association, and manifested the advantages of these inheritances and possessions by the eminence they so often attained.

EDWARD RICHARDS, the first in this town of his name, was born in Dedham in 1724, and in 1756 he married Mary Fisher, of that place. The date of his removal to this town is 1769, and he at once took a prominent position in its affairs. He served "most faithfully in the many positions of trust" which he was called to fill. His name appears frequently upon the records of Revolutionary times as a member of the important committees of "Safety and Correspondence," and it stands first upon the list of the five gentlemen first chosen as such a committee in 1774; "and among the judges of the Superior and Inferior Court created by the town," his name is also to be found. During this time "he was either first, or among the first." He had four sons, some of whom he probably brought with him when very young to this town, and all of whom settled here. One of these, Calvin, was of a different mold from many of the family, for of him it has been said: "He was a quiet, peaceful citizen." He had seven sons: Hovey, who died at an early age; Manning; Peyton; Calvin; Spencer; Tim, and Ichabod; and two daughters.

MANNING RICHARDS became a farmer, but not on a large scale, and after a time he added a manufacturing business to this occupation, for he was of "a mechanical turn of mind." He turned his attention to jewelry soon after that manufacture was commenced in town, built a shop on his farm about two miles from the village of North Attleborough, and had for a while and for that time a considerable business. Subsequently he removed to the village, and "opened a variety store and public house," on the site of T. E. Hancock's store. Reverses came, however, and he lost a large portion of the property he had accumulated. His death occurred in 1826.

Hovey Hovey MANNING RICHARDS was the son of Manning and Susan FISHBURN RICHARDS, and was born on his father's farm Jan. 11, 1817. He must have had only scant opportunity for a school education, as he was but fourteen years of age when his father died, and the loss of property which his father had sustained caused him to be left with the responsibility of becoming the support of his mother and two sisters. The outlook does not seem to have discouraging him, for as he was, for he would be, an enter-

and manfully. He learned the jewelry trade, as an apprentice to his uncle, Ira Richards, managed withal to save a little money, and, "while yet a boy in his teens," commenced business for himself, his energy and industry taking the place of reserve force which is usually given to capital. "His business career of nearly sixty years is remarkable for the enterprise displayed, and the signal reverses met."

He had scarcely begun to prosper in his first venture when his shop was burned. Directly he formed a partnership with George Morse, as Morse & Richards. Mr. Morse was an excellent mechanic, so he took charge of the manufacturing, and Mr. Richards tried the to him new line of a salesman's position, proved a success, and the firm prospered. In 1833, when just twenty-one, he was joined by his cousin, Edmund Ira Richards, who was just eighteen. They "bought copper cents from a firm in Taunton, which also sold to the government, and stamping them with a caricature of Gen. Jackson, and the motto 'I take the responsibility,' put them on the market." These were at once in great demand, and purchasers, finding they could be passed as money, proceeded to pass them; but Government soon vetoed the enterprise. This young firm had such marked success that Ira Richards was persuaded to retire from the firm of Draper, Tift & Co. "and go into business with 'The boys.'" This occurred in 1834, and the firm thus formed was Ira Richards & Co., one well known, and "second to none" in the jewelry business. The amount of capital was \$2,000, and at the end of twenty weeks the proceeds were \$20,000.

In 1836 H. M. Richards retired from this firm. He bought out W. B. Franklin, who was then at work in the first jewelry-shop ever known in the village of North Attleborough, but remained there only a short time, when he went to Philadelphia and opened a manufactory in that city. He took with him some skilful workmen from here, among them W. D. Whiting and Otis Stanley. For some years he was successful, but then, having engaged in some large speculations ("the mulberry tree speculations") which resulted unfavorably, he lost his fortune and returned to his native town. He was then only thirty-nine and was for the third time where he started—at the bottom of the ladder and without money. He was in reality worse off than at first, for he had already tasted of the fruits of success; but he had lost none of his inborn energy and courage, and he began again with the timely assistance of his uncle Ira, and with unabated determination to compel fortune to his will once more. "He went to Plainville, bargained for the whole village, and opened a factory there," and at the same time took up his residence in that place.

"Unfortunately, before he had paid the money, a larger offer had been accepted," and this compelled him to change all his plans and "to go elsewhere." He then located in North Attleborough, in a shop that stood nearly opposite his late residence. From this time he grew wealthy with great

republic, and foresawing far more clearly than any one else at that time the possibilities of both Attleborough Falls and his own village, he made large investments in real estate in both places. — He once owned all the east side of Washington-street from Elm-street to and including the site of Coddling's block, and on the west side from Gould's block to Richards-avenue, exclusive of the Universalist church and the land where F. F. Hancock's store now is, with ten or twelve acres directly in the rear of this frontage — namely, including the estate of the late Simeon Bowen, Dr. F. L. Bapton, W. W. Allen, A. E. Coddling, E. D. Sturtevant, Dr. Foster, — and Kendall's grove. The mill property at Farmers' village was let off at auction by him in 1854, and soon after he exchanged property with Habel and Homer Daggett, who owned the cotton mill at Attleboro' Falls. He built the present stone mill of the Gold Medal Braid Co. in 1855 for a jewelry factory. He later purchased the 'Peck farm' in the rear of the Falls village, including 'Peck's mill-pond' and all the property lying between the Broad mill and the river, where it crosses Chestnut-street near the Union Power Co.'s shop. He built the residence of Mrs. Simeon Bowen, and lived there a number of years. He also owned and resided in what is known as the 'Round house,' now the property of the St. Mary Society, and had other estates of less value and note. The road from Elm-street to the Falls railroad-bridge was built by him.

He had but just acquired this great property when the crisis of 1857 came on and brought more or less of disaster to almost all of the jewelry firms in town, and indeed in the country. Mr. Richards became embarrassed, and his efforts to realize advantageously on his real estate were unavailing and it finally was disposed of to the Providence Land Company and by them divided and sold. Henry L. Kendall bought a large portion of the property in North Attleborough, and H. N. Daggett the mill, etc., at the Falls. It went at a ruinous sacrifice so far as Mr. Richards was concerned, and his purchasers naturally realized the profits which should have been his. In 1863, then fifty-one years of age, he bravely set out once again and for the fourth time to make a fortune. This time he went to Boston, and with his son E. H. Richards established himself in the jewelry-business there. The firm name was H. M. Richards & Co., and the location at No. 7 Green Street. Here too he met with success, but not so much as before, as previously. In 1876 he retired from active partnership, and in 1880 sold his share in the concern to his son, who continues, but under another name. He then returned to his home on Washington Street, North Attleborough, not far from the railroad station, where he resided till his death.

Mr. Richards was a very public-spirited man, active in all matters relating to the advancement or benefit of the town, and a liberal member of the First Universalist Society. He was a member of British Legion and prominent also in Old Fellowship societies of Howard, Massachusetts and Augusta

Lodge, No. 107. In 1856-57 he was Representative, and in 1862-63 Senator in the State Legislature. He was in 1860 one of the signers of the petition for the charter of the Attleborough Savings Bank, and "the prime mover in the establishment of the North Attleborough Gas Co. and its works."

His first wife was Juline, the daughter of David Capron, and they were married June 3, 1833. Having no children of their own they adopted two: Eugene H. and Marion Fell Richards, the latter Mrs. C. A. Gilchrist, of Boston. In November, 1857, Mr. Richards married again — Mrs. Anjanette P. Balcom, a daughter of Remember Carpenter, of Pawtucket, R. I. They had no children. In the spring of 1882 Mr. Richards was attacked severely with paralysis. Still he was not disheartened or dismayed — his indomitable will and dauntless courage prevailed even here — and for a long time he refused to be conquered by a disease whose power is calculated to make the strongest spirit cower. He partially recovered his strength, and his determination enabled him to go about, though one side of his body was almost helpless. He walked, and alone, because he *would* do so, but repeated shocks subsequently followed and his frame was finally compelled to yield. He became physically quite helpless, but there was never any diminution of the mental powers. His death occurred July 19, 1886.

The funeral took place at his late residence and was largely attended, and he was buried at Mount Hope Cemetery with the impressive rites of Odd Fellowship. One speaks of him thus: "Mr. Richards exemplified in his life the virtues of industry, perseverance, and fortitude of purpose. Viewed as a business man, he had a genius for making money rather than tenacity in keeping it. He believed that money was to be used, and used in developing the resources, and promoting the welfare of the community in which it was made. He was one of those men, who, placed on a barren rock, would cast about him and make a fortune in a few years, and then spend half of it in trying to make the rock something more fruitful and attractive. He was greatly esteemed among his fellow citizens, especially those who knew him when he was most active in North Attleborough. Such an enterprising, able, and public-spirited man the public heart remembers tenderly and honors in his last, long sleep."

EUGENE H. RICHARDS, adopted son of H. M. Richards, was born November 17, 1843. Immediately after his graduation from Tufts College, in July, 1862, he enlisted as a private in Company H, Fortieth Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteers. On August 15 following he received a commission as second lieutenant, and on July 2, 1863, that of first lieutenant by promotion. He was with his regiment in all the battles in which it was engaged, was a good soldier, and served his country faithfully and creditably, receiving in 1864 an honorable discharge. He was at once on his return home employed by his father in the business he was then carrying on in Boston and in 1870 became a partner in it. In 1880 he bought his father's share and changed

the firm name to F. H. Richards & Co., under which title he still continues with success. He is a prominent member of the Masonic Order and holds important offices in York and Scotland Yfles, where he is eligible to Master only of a 32^d high degree. He was married October 18, 1869, to Frances A. Jordan, of Boston. They have no children (1887).

ISAAC RICHARDS, a younger brother of Manly Richards, was also engaged in the jewelry business and became famous in it. Previous to entering upon it, however, he and two of his younger brothers—Charles and Spencer—were associated in several kinds of business. They formed the Richards Manufacturing Company, which carried on quite a large business in the trading of "house furnishings" and "kitchen" or "fasteners." He became a member of the firm of Draper, Tift & Co., but retired after a few years, when he became the founder of the second famous jewelry firm in the town, historically, the one just named being the first. He gained an enviable reputation as a business man. It was universally said of him: "His word is as good as his bond," and this association with his name is remembered and referred to even at the present time. It is also said: "He was very reserved and stern, but so notably a just and honored man, that matters of dispute among his neighbors, if unable to be settled peacefully, were invariably left to his decision." He was one of the directors of the old State Bank of Attleborough, and among the most prominent men in the First Universalist Church, "being the prime mover in changing its location from Oldtown to North Attleborough." His nearest family Draper, of this town, granddaughter of Dr. Bezaleel Mann, and she lived to a very great age. Mr. Richards died in 1844.

LESLIE ISAAC RICHARDS, eldest son of Isaac and Emily Richards, was born in North Attleborough, November 27, 1815, in a large two-story house now on Grant Street, then in front of Mr. Abiel Coddling's present residence on Elm Street. His boyhood was, however, spent in the house built by his father soon after his birth and well known to most people now as the residence of the Doctors Foster, father and son. Mr. Richards commenced his business career at a very early age, for, as has been seen, when but eighteen he made his first venture with his cousin, H. M. Richards, in the stamping and selling of copper cents, which operation was only allowed a short, though it had proved a very successful, existence, when it was ~~unsuccessfully~~ ^{discontinued} by a government order. In this early period, by his father, Mr. Richards became one of the founders of the famous firm known by the father's name for many years. This partnership proved an equal success with the first business firm, on April 1837, when Mr. Richards became ~~of age~~. ^{Some changes were then made, further ones occurred in 1841, and others in 1845, the date of Mr. Isaac Richards' death. At that time the} partnership between Manly, F. L. and J. D. Richards and Abiel Coddling,



1. Building of the State of Wisconsin, D. W. Thompson. 2. Building of the State of Wisconsin, D. W. Thompson. 3. Building of the State of Wisconsin, D. W. Thompson. 4. Building of the State of Wisconsin, D. W. Thompson. 5. Building of the State of Wisconsin, D. W. Thompson.

Jr., was formed; and these three gentlemen, with equal interest, carried on business together, under the original name, for thirty years and made for themselves "a national reputation."

Some difficulties arose in 1875, which made it expedient to dissolve this firm: but a new one was at once formed and called, after the chief partner, E. I. Richards & Co. His death occurred in 1882, but the firm is still in existence and carries on its business under the same name.

In October, 1850, Mr. Richards was elected a director of the Attleborough State Bank. "He soon conceived the idea of removing the bank from Attleborough to North Attleborough. Mr. Richards and his associates, from August 1855 to December 1856, succeeded in controlling a majority of the stock, and he presented the matter of removal to the Senate so convincingly, that, with Oakes Ames for the opposition, the change was allowed." Judge Wheaton, the founder of Wheaton Seminary at Norton, was president of the bank. About that time he retired from the office and at a stockholders' meeting held February 11, 1856, Mr. Richards was chosen his successor and he retained the office until January 27, 1875. On July 6, 1857, the stockholders voted to remove the bank to North Attleborough, and its stock increased threefold in value during the twenty years of Mr. Richards' presidency. Mr. Richards initiated the movement to establish the Attleborough Savings Bank in 1860 and was one of the four signers of the petition for a charter.

"In war time he was one of the most hopeful in the darkest hours, but he was too much absorbed in business to feel under ordinary circumstances much interest in politics. In the winter of 1865-66, however, he yielded to the wishes of his friends, and represented his district at the General Court." Though well fitted for a public career, he seemed to possess no desires or aspirations in that direction. He found his home, which was a beautiful one, the most attractive and satisfactory place, and the chief part of his time which was not occupied with the active pursuits of his business was spent with his family. He was "a business man of the greatest energy, shrewdness and foresight." His remarkably enterprising spirit manifested itself at a very early age "and his career shows what brains and push can do for any man's advancement."

"Many of the jewelry and other firms in North Attleboro' were aided by the counsel, and backed by the money of Mr. Richards when they started. He was remarkably tenacious of his purpose; and this tenacity showed itself not only in pushing the business of his own firm, but in supporting the venture of any man he assisted. If he decided that a man ought to succeed in an enterprise, and advanced him the money, Mr. Richards would not admit that failure was a possibility. It was by seconding new business ventures, as well as in forwarding their own, that Edmund Ira Richards and the firm with which he was connected have done much, in their long career, toward building

whom is deceased. Ira Richards, their son, was born March 5, 1852. Shortly after completing his education at Phillips Academy, Andover, he entered into partnership with Messrs. Sandland and Capron, of North Attleborough, to manufacture jewelry, and is still connected with that firm. On January 2, 1879, he married Lydia R., daughter of William H. Reynard, of New Bedford, this State. They have several children and a charming residence within the ample grounds of Mr. Richards, the father.¹

RICHARDSON.

The family of this name were originally of Scandinavian origin, but emigrated to America from England among the early settlers of both Massachusetts and Plymouth colonies. Members of several different families of this name, so far as they are traced, came to Attleborough, and among them four brothers, Stephen, John, William, and Seth, who had previously settled in Woburn, this State, and probably came directly from that town to this. Of these brothers, Stephen had a son (Daniel?) who was born about 1741-42. He married Sarah Read, and they had three sons. The youngest of them was Noah, and he was born June 27, 1780. He owned a farm on the east road running from Attleborough to North Attleborough, adjoining in part a farm still owned and occupied by a family of the same name, though not of near relationship. He was a farmer and a nail-maker. He was quiet and unpretending, but a good and respected citizen, and liberal toward works of usefulness or benevolence as far as his very limited means would allow. He died when fifty-five, but his wife, whose name was Irene Bacon, survived him for many years, and reached the age of eighty-four. Both were buried in the Old Kirk Yard, but their remains were subsequently removed to Mount Hope Cemetery. They had seven children: Sylvester, Alfred, Silena (Mrs. Charles P. Day), Stephen, Charles B., Eliza (Mrs. Angus McDonald), and Mary C.

STEPHEN RICHARDSON was born November 10, 1815, in the house now known as the "James Foster house," the farm connected with it being probably in whole or in part his father's. The first fifteen years of his life were passed at home, in the same manner no doubt as those of other boys in similar circumstances, the time filled up by work on the farm and a few months of "schooling" in the winter. When somewhat past fifteen he went to North Attleborough and entered the employ of Calvin Richards, whose factory was on the grounds adjoining the Richards homestead, now owned and occupied by Mr. Abiel Coddington. Mr. Richardson spent several years in this factory learning the trade of jewelry-making, and he acquired both a thor-

¹ Mr. Josiah D. Richards died July 18, 1890. He was returning in his carriage from a hunting expedition, taken for the pleasure chiefly of his little grandson, when the accidental discharge of his gun killed him.

man and practical knowledge of it. In 1806 he commenced manufacturing with Abel Corbridge as his partner. This firm existed only a year, as we will suppose two different shops. After Mr. Corbridge's retirement, Mr. Richards continued alone for a time, but later David Capron became associated with him, as Stephen Richardson & Co. These gentlemen continued in partnership for several years, manufacturing their goods, and then, according to the general custom of that time, traveling about the country to dispose of them, sometimes making regular sales, that is, for money, sometimes bartering them for other articles. "They were fortunate. They made good work, were lucky in their designs, which were quite popular, and made money. On one lot, a new style of ring, they made about ten thousand dollars." Their success made the quarters they then occupied too limited, and in 1848 a new factory was built. The same year Mr. Richardson built his residence which he occupied during the remainder of his life, and which then was as fine as any, if not the finest, in the place. At this time the number of hands employed by this firm was forty, and it was doing the largest business in town in its particular line, and very soon a further enlargement of manufacturing room was required. Mr. Capron finally retired, and Mr. Richardson continued alone, or in connection with Samuel R. Miller, up to the year 1856.

Following that of traveling here and there, the custom had arisen among manufacturing jewelers generally to have representatives in New York City, and through them to exhibit their goods in the Western Hotel there, in rooms "well remembered by those in the trade of those days." About this time — 1856 — Mr. Richardson among the very first made a new departure and opened a separate office, where a constant supply of goods was to be found, a departure soon followed by others, and now the almost universal fashion. Such an office in that or some other city, and sometimes in more than one, is the usual adjunct of the various firms. At first Mr. Richardson made rings, pms, and chains in great variety, but afterward engaged in making what are termed "novelties," his branch being "perhaps the very first to depart from the legitimate jewelry business," for the purpose of taking up this line of manufacture. In addition to the goods made by themselves this firm "handled" those of one establishment at the Falls, one at Wrentham, and two at South Attleborough. They were also great importers, employed "a resident buyer in Paris, and became one of the largest, if not the largest importing house of French jewelry in America," and besides the New York office, opened first on Maiden Lane and later at 177 Broadway, they opened an office in Philadelphia.

From 1856 till 1880 Mr. Richardson was alone, and occupied himself with "domestic goods" only, and relinquished the importing branch of the business to others. On the first of July of the last-named year his son Clarence became his partner under the same name of Stephen Richardson & Co. They were employed in the factory over a hundred hands, and many others engaged

in work for them outside. The business was very successful and very remunerative for many years. In 1870 it received a check in the burning of the factory, but in the hands of so able and determined a man as Mr. Richardson this was not allowed to be more than temporary. "After the fire, with characteristic energy and promptitude, he took rooms in the Whiting Man. Co.'s building, and in ten days' time was at work in those quarters, and immediately began a new building on the site of the burned factory." This work of construction was vigorously pushed on to completion, and on February 1, 1871, scarcely six months after the old one was destroyed, the new factory was occupied with one hundred and thirty-five hands. This was rapid work, to erect a building 150 feet long, 33 feet wide, and three stories high, with machinery set and everything in readiness for manufacturing to begin, complete in less than a hundred and fifty days. There was no abatement in the prosperity of the firm, which continued steadily successful, and also "established a large export trade in Cuba, and European ports." The senior partner continued his active interest for six years, until the time of his death.

In 1837 Mr. Richardson married Ann Janette F. Richards, daughter of Manning and Susan Everett Richards, of North Attleborough. They had four children: Clarence H.; Frank; Janette Everett, who married Eugene K. Dunbar, of Machias, Maine, the founder of the *Attleborough Chronicle* and now a resident of Boston; and Stephen, who died young. Mrs. Richardson died in July, 1862. In 1868 Mr. Richardson married Mrs. Sarah M. Richards, widow of Egbert S. Richards, of this town.

Mr. Richardson was equally an excellent man and citizen, and manifested much interest in the welfare of the town, doing his full share in all enterprises for its benefit. He invested quite largely in real estate and erected various buildings which necessitated the opening of new streets — notably East and Foster — and so made marked improvements in the village in which he lived. "He was one of the promoters, and a director of the N. A. Gas Company; also of the Branch Railroad; was also stockholder, and for many years director of the Wrentham Bank; was a stockholder of the Northern Bank of Providence; and purchased the site, and, with his fellow-members of the N. A. Building Asso. erected the Wamsutta Block."

Mr. Richardson died March 1, 1877, when but little past the prime of life. The following extract is from an article written by Mr. H. N. Daggett, whose knowledge of him was that of an intimate friend, and it well describes the man. Mr. Daggett says: "He received from his parents, who were in humble circumstances, no property, and was compelled to struggle during his minority for the support of himself and parents. He was schooled in all the trials of poverty and want in his youth, and arose, unaided, superior to both. He was truly and in every sense of the word a self-made man. His early educational advantages were limited in the extreme, compared with the

advantages and facilities of the present day. Notwithstanding these temptations, he acquired, by contact with the world and self-culture, a good business education. He possessed good natural abilities, a mind active and evenly balanced, a kind and generous disposition. At his maturity he became a slave to use in the world and improve the talents God had given him. Without money or friends to help him, by dint of energy, perseverance, and honesty of purpose, he succeeded in obtaining a fortune and a good name. He used his wealth for his own and others' good. He possessed one virtue which was predominant, charity. He was truly benevolent and generous to a fault, and was a dispenser of charity all the days of his life. Many a poor plowman of earth will sadly miss his beneficence. He was unsentimental in his restitutions to the poor and needy. Of these he kept no record on earth, but are they not recorded in the book of God's remembrance? His fellow-citizens, reposing confidence in his integrity and honesty, selected him for places of honor and trust. For nearly twenty years he was a director of a banking institution, and held many other offices. As a friend, he was constant and sincere; as an adviser, he was cross-counsellor and true; as a neighbor, kind and obliging. No lessness man has gone from earth leaving a purer record, a nobler work finished, a name more beloved, or a character more unblemished than he."

ASHATAP ADRIANUS RICHARDSON was the only son of Abner Richardson, of this town. The name has long been well known in town and the family numerous, for besides the four brothers previously mentioned as coming here there were several others of the same name who immigrated here in early days. The connection between these various families has not been traced, but no doubt they all originally sprang from the same stock even though—as seems to be the case—at a period much earlier than their appearance in America, and even though relationship is not at present claimed between them all. One man of the name, William Richardson, 1790-1860, had a frame on the site of Mr. Harwood Richardson's saw factory and he owned considerable land in that vicinity.

The subject of this short sketch finished his education here in town, it is said, at the Attleborough Academy.¹ His health was not sufficiently robust to permit him to engage in severe physical labor such as was required by nearly all the men in town at that time, for they were chiefly farmers, and after leaving school he went to Virginia. He sailed from Providence in a brig. This change was partly to benefit his health and partly to make a business venture. This was the time when in the popular estimation the raising of silkworms was or might be made profitable in this country, and Mr.

¹ The Attleborough Academy was a small school, and the subject of this sketch was not a student there. He was a student at the Attleborough Academy, and the subject of this sketch was not a student there. He was a student at the Attleborough Academy, and the subject of this sketch was not a student there.

Richardson established a plantation of mulberry trees in Virginia with this object in view. The enterprise did not, however, in his case prove successful and so he returned home. This must have been one of the so-called "mulberry-tree speculations" in which Mr. H. M. Richards also took part, and disastrously.

Mr. Richardson died of consumption at the early age of thirty years. He was possessed of a considerable fortune and as he never married and had no direct heirs he adopted the cause of public education in his own community, and by will left nearly all of his entire estate — of which the farm subsequently owned and occupied for many years by the author was a part — to the common, free schools of the East parish. The value of the donation was then \$11,000 and it has since more than doubled. It was a most generous and noble gift, one for which the giver's name should be held in grateful and everlasting remembrance. He was buried in the Old Kirk Yard, where a granite monument — a plain shaft — was erected to his memory, containing the following simple but expressive and appropriate inscription: —

"ABIATHAR A. RICHARDSON,
born Dec. 30, 1813, died Feb. 13, 1843.
His legacy to Common Schools is his best
epitaph and his most enduring monument."

ROBINSON.

Six brothers of this name came here from Rehoboth previous to 1730. They were descendants of George Robinson, of that town, whose name may be found on the list of the proprietors of the Rehoboth North Purchase as the owner of one share therein. Those of the name in town to-day are also his descendants.

COLONEL OBED ROBINSON was a pioneer among the manufacturers of Attleborough. He was at first a blacksmith, but the breaking out of the Revolutionary War presented him with an opportunity to make a change in his occupation and he commenced manufacturing gunlocks for weapons for the use of the Continental army. This he did under a sub-contract, and for that reason chiefly perhaps the business proved unremunerative, so upon the close of the war he abandoned it and took up that of clock-making — for kitchen use. These tall, "old-fashioned" timepieces are no longer humble "kitchen clocks," but are promoted to the best rooms and the present chief places in the house. How many of those made by Mr. Robinson are still extant it is not possible to say, but the one made in 1797 for Hon. Ebenezer Daggett when he was married and went to housekeeping is still in existence¹ and in excellent condition. It is thoroughly to be depended on for correctness in noting the passing hours, and is highly prized both as a family treasure and because it was made by a native of Attleborough.

¹ In the possession of the Editor.

The making of clocks was in turn abandoned after some years, and in 1807 Mr. Robinson began to make jewelry, having in his employ one David Brown, one skilled workman in the art.¹⁰ Five years later, in 1812, he began the manufacture of buttons, and this became a very large business both in variety and extent. At different times his three sons, Otis, Richard, and Willard, all having learned the trade of him, were associated with him in this business, and for many years great prosperity was experienced. A few years previous to his death, which occurred in 1840, Mr. Robinson retired from all active business owing to his enfeebled health. He was too greatly advanced in years. He was at one time colonel of a regiment in the Massachusetts Militia.

Otis, the eldest son, removed finally to Southington, Conn., where he was engaged in active business—in manufacturing—up to the time of his death, in 1843. Richard, the second son, died in 1837, while a member of the firm of Robinson, Jones & Co., of this town.

WILLARD ROBINSON, the youngest of these three sons, was born June 13, 1799. Like many of the prominent men of the generation just passing away, he had very few opportunities of acquiring an education so far as school instruction was concerned, the public advantages then offered being so far inferior to those of the present day in town. But mere book-learning is by no means the best (important part of an education. That the knowledge gained by reading, observation, and experience of the world is of far more practical value, and that the man subjected to that method of instruction may in reality receive a thorough education and be thereby fitted to attain the highest kind of success, is evidenced by the life of the subject of this sketch.

About the time, or a little later, that Mr. Robinson's father and eldest son had become associated in the manufacture of metal buttons he and his brother Richard became apprentices to the firm, and both of them speedily developed enterprise and great ingenuity. Willard especially showed great skill and aptitude for this mechanical business. He remained for some years in the employ of his father or Richard, who appears at one time to have been in business for himself, or to have conducted the affairs of the original firm alone, and to have then employed the younger brother. In 1823 the firm of Richard Robinson & Co. was formed for the purpose of manufacturing glass buttons, and Willard became one of its members. Subsequently changes were made both in partners and firm name, but for twenty years Mr. Robinson continued to be a member, and so long was largely due the remarkable success which followed the initiation of this enterprise. His busy mind was continually engaged in thinking out changes and making additions to the facilities for manufacturing. He constructed new dyes, invented new machinery, and introduced many improvements. He saw a button called the "iris-button," and by his cleverness he discovered the

method of its production and at once set to work to manufacture it, giving to his product the name of "opal-button." Later gilt buttons were added to the varieties made.

Up to this time the latter had been imported from England, but those manufactured by the Robinsons, being superior in style and finish, commanded rapid sales and good prices and the firm soon controlled the market. The fashion of bright metal buttons for gentlemen's coats was a prevailing one fifty or more years ago, only professional men wearing black coats with cloth-covered buttons; and it is easy to realize that this firm's business must have been a very extensive and equally lucrative one. For many years a large proportion of the buttons used by the army, navy, and police were made in this establishment at Robinsonville, and a great quantity of fancy buttons besides. About 1843 the universal fashion suddenly met with a change and the gilt buttons gave place to covered ones, except for military clothing: his market closed, therefore, and in that year Mr. Robinson, who had for five years been conducting the business alone, was obliged to suspend operations.

Previous to this time John Hatch, a skilful mechanic in his employ, had conceived the idea of constructing a machine for making trowsers buttons, which should receive the material and complete the article in one continuous process and should be self-acting and self-adjusting. Mr. Robinson appreciated the promise contained in this idea and his quick intelligence grasped its feasibility, and he turned his attention to working it out. He and Mr. Hatch studied and experimented together, until they succeeded in making a perfect machine. The patent for this machine was issued to Willard Robinson February 20, 1845. It continued for fourteen years, and then an extension was obtained for seven years additional. Mr. Hatch became a partner with Mr. Robinson for the manufacture of these patented buttons and a very large and profitable business ensued. His death occurred in 1849, and Mr. Robinson carried on the manufactory alone for more than twenty years, with almost exclusive control of the market. "He received five medals from different exhibitions, testimonials of value to the merits of his goods." He continued to be actively engaged in this business up to the time of his death and since that time it has been conducted by one of his sons, Arthur B. Robinson, who purchased it.

October 25, 1825, Mr. Robinson married Rebecca W. Richards, daughter of Edward and Amy Richards, of this town. They had five children: Ellen R., who married John C. Douglass, of Leavenworth, Kan., and is now deceased; Jarvis W.; Isabel E., Mrs. Joseph Cushman; Arthur B.;¹ and Adelaide R., Mrs. M. B. Mackreth. Mrs. Robinson survived her husband for nearly nine years and died August 16, 1888, in the eighty-fourth year of her age.

¹Jarvis W. and Arthur B. Robinson are both deceased - 1893.

tion. When the war broke out he was among the first to enlist, and was a member of Company I, Seventh Massachusetts Regiment. He faithfully discharged all his duties in his company and regiment as long as he lived, "as a loyal Christian soldier." In the latter part of 1862 he came home to recover from the effects of a severe illness he had contracted in the army. Before his strength was fully restored, however, his furlough expired, and, though he was unable to do so, he cheerfully returned to his duties in the field, the severity of which he fully realized, for by this time the glamour and illusion were gone and the war had become a stern and determined reality. His health could not long endure the terrible strain of such experiences as our brave "Seventh" had, though his death was caused by an acute attack of disease. He died December 16, 1863, of pleurisy, after an illness of eight days' duration. His remains were brought home and the funeral services were held on December 24, at the Second Congregational Church, and he was buried with military honors.

A memorial of him was published soon after his death, and the various extracts from his letters to a friend, which were printed in it, show how conscientious he was as a soldier. He enlisted, "counting the cost." His motives were the highest and noblest, those of true Christian patriotism. One or two quotations from his letters may well be given here. As early as October, 1861, in speaking of several deaths which had occurred in the army or elsewhere he says:—

"I have lost a brother and, ere the close of the war, my mother may be grieved again at the loss of her first-born son. For her sake, I would that I might live, that I may be her support in the later years of a life that has been spent for the comfort and good of her children. 'Tis a fearful retribution that has fallen upon us for permitting the curse of slavery to rest so long upon the land. The tears and suffering of the poor slaves for more than two centuries are now to be expiated by the blood of their task-masters, and those whose hands were idle to stop the sin. Efforts are now making to have us placed in the most advanced position of this army, and I hope they will be successful. I am willing, if it will give the death-blow to slavery, to give my blood upon the field of battle." Again, a year later, he writes: "In the mercy of God my blood has not yet been called for. Thousands more worthy of life, lie low upon the battle-fields, while I am still safe from harm. Surely they who return from the war ought to be *patriots in life of the highest excellence* if our country is restored to its former integrity and harmony: for the blood of Patriot-Martyrs that has already consecrated anew every letter and word of the 'constitution and laws,' of this once happy and peaceful land. Can it be that much more is to be shed? Apparently we are little nearer a peaceful solution of this vexed question than ever, and battles are yet talked of soon to come, even more bloody than their predecessors. I think now, as I always have, that so long as a man is owned by his fellow-man upon this soil, we can never again be a united country, and if I must remain here or run my risk in battling for the remainder of my three years, I had much rather do so than have another *slavery compromise* patched up." Again, in speaking of the cause of the war: "But a *reckoning time* has come *now*, and *will come again*, if the evil be not rooted out *entirely* from the land." He was always confident of victory in the end, for under the same date he says: "Unless one has faith in the Almighty as ruler of all the nations of the earth, the aspect of everything is *dark* at present:—but Hope has not yet left *me*. The struggle may be long, but ultimate success seems certain for us. The fervent prayers of Christians will not fall unheeded round the Mercy Seat. Were everything we desire gained by the mere *crash*, without struggle on our part, it would be soon forgotten; but who will *lightly* estimate the blessings of Peace and Union when this strife shall terminate."

every duty, whether as an officer or a soldier. He was with his regiment "from Gettysburg to Richmond." As long as he lived "he always retained a strong love for his companions in arms, and was one of the regiment's executive committee after the disbanded veterans had reunited themselves as an association for mutual assistance and good fellowship." He remained in the service for three years and received his discharge on June 16, 1865, when the war was over.

On his return home he became bookkeeper for R. Blackinton & Co. at the Falls, and remained with that firm until 1868. During that year he returned to his native village and became associated with Oscar Thayer in jewelry business. The firm was Savery, Thayer & Co., but not long after Mr. Thayer sold his interest, and this was purchased by Charles Mason, with whom Mr. Savery continued until 1872, when the firm was dissolved. Then Mr. Savery with his brother Henry entered the grocery business under the name of Savery Brothers. In 1873 he was chosen town clerk, was reelected to the same position every subsequent year of his life, a period of fourteen years, and was holding the office at the time of his death. In 1875 he relinquished his grocery business, and from that time on devoted himself exclusively to the duties of various public positions.

When he first accepted the position of town clerk the office was kept in the old depot building, later in a small building on South Main Street, and for several years previous to his death it had occupied its present commodious room in Sturdy's Block. During the period of his clerkship the town largely increased in population — nearly doubled — and increased largely also in the extent of its manufactures, in its wealth and importance, and this brought a corresponding increase in the "extent, variety, and importance of the duties of his office." Mr. Savery soon became thoroughly conversant with the requirements of his position, and showed a special adaptability to it. He had doubtless become better acquainted with the history of the town during the years of his service than any other man, and this rendered his presence at public meetings of marked value. Able from knowledge and ability to form correct opinions upon questions which came up, he was always willing to present them when requested to do so, though he never forced them forward. He expressed them when occasion required with clearness and precision, and not infrequently they served to settle matters of importance. As the years passed on he grew to be more and more valuable to the town, a fact which was well understood and gladly acknowledged by his fellow-citizens who when he died felt they had sustained an irreparable loss.

In 1880 he was elected selectman and assessor, serving on that board until 1885, and the following year he was again elected assessor. In 1884, when the Board of Registrars was created by statute, he was made its clerk for this town and retained the office until his death; and he was clerk of the Attleborough Water District until it became united with the Fire District, of

which he was then clerk. He was an active member of the Young Men's Christian Association and clerk of the Second Congregational Parish. He belonged to William A. Streeter Post, G. A. R.; was one of the ex-officers of Company H of the Fortieth Regimental Association, secretary of the Home Association, officer of the American Legion of Honor, and treasurer of the Temple of Honor. "These varied positions brought him in close contact with every class of people, to all of whom he proved a friend and adviser, and while no one's life is really necessary for the work of the world, it will be depressing to feel those who can at once take up all the duties which he kept well in charge."

November 10, 1869, he married Isadora E., the daughter of Mr. William Briggs, of this town. They had four children, of whom three are living: William E., Grace A., and John L. My Savery was a most devoted husband and father. Small things often show most clearly a person's character. It is said that whenever returning from North Attleborough, as the train passed his home, he always gave a signal from the car window to his children and had an answering one from them. No matter how late he might be, he never omitted this pleasant little ceremony.

He died October 5, 1886, after an illness of some weeks' duration which was not considered of a serious or alarming nature until shortly before his death. The funeral took place in his own church on the fifth instant. Burial was very graciously suspended and a large number of people attended the service, which was conducted by his pastor, Rev. Walter Barton, assisted by Rev. W. A. Luce, of the Methodist Church, and Rev. M. Canfield, a former pastor in town. Colonel J. A. Dalton and Captain Litchfield of Mr. Savery's regiment were present with the Grand Army, and there were delegations from the organizations to which he belonged. He was buried at Woodlawn with the special service of the G. A. R.

In the course of his most appropriate discourse Mr. Barton said: "There are empty seats all around us which none but the familiar forms can fill. There is a vacant place in the ranks of the Grand Army, a vacancy in the Y. M. C. A., a faithful public servant is not here; the causes of education and temperance have lost a friend; the Sunday-school misses one of its best teachers; the church here (and some gently attached and supporter). But we imagine what the world would be if, like him who lies here, every parent were seen on Sunday morning wending their way to the sanctuary with their family; if, packing we were assured in what is good and true and right. If the world were filled with men like him, how different it would be." Another said: "Mr. Savery was a man of sterling character, firm in his adherence to what he deemed right, yet tolerant with those who disagreed. He was never too busy to attend to those who sought him, and never known to have other than a calm and pleasant manner."

He was a (devout and) genuine Christian. He was (for some) years a mem-

ber of the Second Congregational Church and a teacher in its Sunday-school, and he organized the Sunday-school out of which the Central Church at the Falls village grew. His religion had no bigotry in it, and it was of a cheerful, practical kind such as brings happiness to the heart and shines brightest in the affairs of everyday life. He was a good man; there can be no higher encomium bestowed upon him. The following testimonial was "elegantly engrossed and handsomely framed," and presented to his family:—

We, the members of the Board of Registrars of the town of Attleboro, desire to add our testimony to the high moral worth, gentlemanly character, courteous deportment and amiable disposition of our late associate, Job B. Savery. His genial disposition and uniform affability has ever rendered our labors pleasant, his painstaking and familiarity with the duties of the Board has done much to make accurate work, and we feel that his death is a great loss to our body.

We wish to express our sympathy to the heart-broken family of our esteemed friend in their great affliction, and with them sincerely mourn that he, whose life was so full of present usefulness and future promise, has been suddenly and early called from the scenes of busy life to the rest that remains for those whose life, whether long or short, has been so perfectly rounded by conscientiousness and good works as to deserve the plaudit, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Signed

John W. Cody,	} Board
Patrick F. Grady,	
Fred. B. Byram,	
	of
	} Registrars.

No more fitting inscription could be placed above Job Savery than a few lines from a poem which a friend quoted in a notice of him:—

"The good he did cannot be hid
From those whom he befriended.
His useful days will speak his praise,
A more enduring story
Than stone or bust above his dust
Could tell to give him glory."

CHARLES EDWIN WALLACE SHERMAN was born in Plympton, Mass., August 1, 1827. His paternal grandmother was a descendant of Captain Miles Standish, "of Mayflower fame," her father, Jonathan Standish, being the sixth in descent from that doughty Puritan warrior. Mr. Sherman's father, William Sherman, was a dyer and a manufacturer of woollen goods. He was born in Plymouth, the son of Thomas Sherman, a hatter in that place. He lived in several towns in this State—Plympton, Dighton, and Halifax, and died at the age of seventy-three. He had four children, of whom Charles was the third.

When but a boy, he, Charles, worked in his father's factory at Dighton, learning and working in nearly all parts of the manufacture of wool, from its natural state "in the fleece, to the finish." This kind of work proved to be too severe for his strength, however, and he was obliged to give it up for some lighter and easier occupation. Through the assistance of friends he obtained a place in one of the jewelry shops in this town and spent two years in learning the trade of an engraver. April 1, 1848, when about twenty-

and became here and settled, working at his trade for six years. At the end of that time he formed a partnership with George K. Davis, of the firm being George K. Davis & Co., gold and silver peddlers, assayors, and silversmiths. At the end of two years, in 1846, Mr. Sherman built a shop and conducted a business of this kind on his own account until 1876, when he took place in William W. Sherman into company with him and the firm thus formed is still in existence. Mr. Sherman has worked hard during his whole life of sixty years. He has amassed a comfortable fortune and deserves the success he has attained, as the just reward of his care and industry. He has been strictly a business man and has not cared to interest himself especially in public affairs. He is much respected by his friends and by a Union.

SMITH.

STEPHEN SMITH was born in Mansfield, in January, 1796. He came to this town, when quite a young man probably, and bought the Red Road farm, which contained about eighty acres and cost him some six or seven hundred dollars. Here he took up his residence and became quite a successful farmer. By his industry and thrift he accumulated what in those days and for one in his occupation was quite a handsome property, its value at his death being six thousand dollars. He was active in both town and county affairs. He was a member of the Free Soil party when its adherents in town numbered only three or four. He was a Calvinist Baptist, and rigid in his belief in the doctrines of that peculiar faith. He was "a prudent, temperate, reserved man, of few words, honest in his dealings, and of sterling integrity." His first wife was Ruth Hodges, by whom he had one son, Stephen N. His second wife was Mercy S. Ide, a daughter of Nathaniel and Hannah Daggett Ide, whose father was Colonel John Daggett, of Revolutionary fame. She was named Mercy Shepard from her grandmother, wife of Colonel Daggett and daughter of John Shepard "the ancient." They had six children, five daughters and one son, all of whom are deceased with the exception of the latter, the subject of the following sketch.

THERON IDE SMITH was born on his father's farm in the Read and Ide neighborhood, April 9, 1836. He worked on the farm till he was eighteen, obtaining what education this life of a farmer's boy enabled him to get in the common schools. The prospects this mode of life then afforded him were not sufficient to satisfy his ambition and he decided to learn the trade of jewelry-making. He went to North Attleborough and apprenticed himself to Ira Richards & Co. At the end of a year business was dull and in that establishment he could only get six cents an hour and eight hours' work in the day. He then tried for employment elsewhere and found it with J. T. Bacon & Co., in Plainville, where he was paid a dollar a day for "chasing." He was such an excellent workman that his employers soon raised his pay to a dollar and a quarter a day, but at the end of six months he was obliged to

give up chasing entirely, and indeed all work for some months, on account of his health. When able to work again he was employed for a short time "at the bench" by Barrows & Sturdy, in 1856. Not long afterwards he began to work for Merritt & Draper, and remained with them until June 1, 1859, when he joined with D. D. Coddling and they started manufacturing "in a small way" on the first floor of the building they now occupy.

A year from that time these gentlemen moved to Mansfield Centre, where they carried on a very moderate business until the breaking out of the war, which had such an unfavorable effect upon their affairs that they were obliged to discontinue operations altogether. They could not get their pay for goods they had sold, which compelled them to leave their tools idle, and in May, 1861, these were burned with the building in which they were, and the firm thus lost everything. Mr. William Boyd, of Mansfield, was at that time making cap-boxes for the army and Mr. Smith entered his employ and stayed until better times gave him encouragement to try his former occupation again. During the spring of the following year he returned to North Attleborough, and from July, 1862, till July, 1865, he had charge of Merritt & Draper's shop. At this time he entered business again with his former partner and C. H. Ames, as Coddling, Smith & Co., and for two years this firm met with moderate success. Then Mr. Ames withdrew and A. E. Coddling entered the firm, the name remaining the same. From this date, 1867, for six years the firm was very prosperous and then Mr. Smith purchased the interest of each of his partners and continued alone for a year. Then he sold a half-interest to D. D. Coddling and thus formed his present firm of T. I. Smith & Co. This firm has been uninterruptedly prosperous, the only change since its formation being the admission of a former salesman, H. H. Curtis, as a third partner.

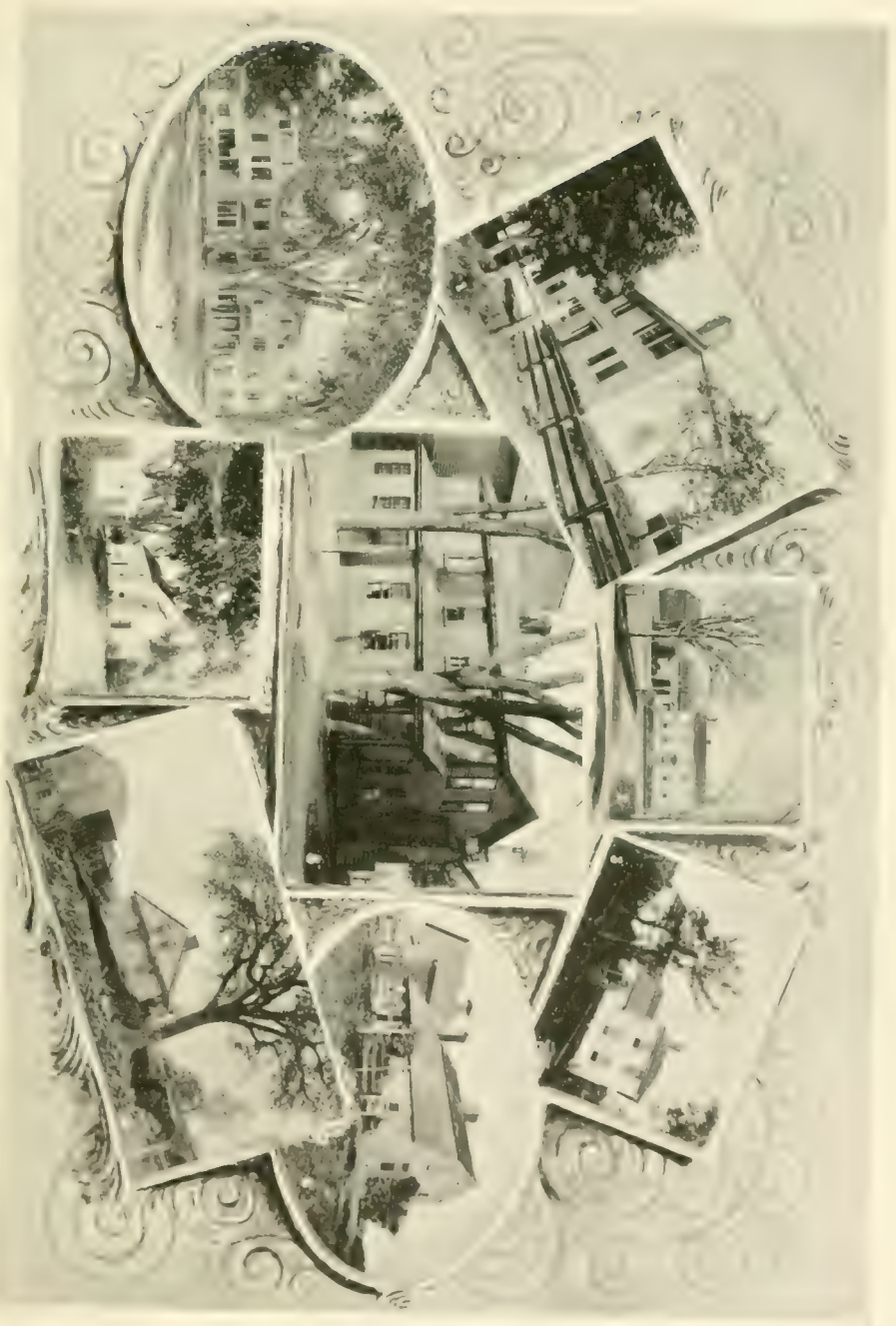
May 16, 1856, Mr. Smith married Emily C., the daughter of Abiel and Chloe Daggett Coddling. They have one child, Eva C., Mrs. Henry H. Curtis. "Mr. Smith has always been in the ranks of intelligent and independent thinkers. He has always been in accord with Republican principles, and cast his first presidential vote for Lincoln. Steady and reliable in his business, pleasant and affable in his intercourse with others, unassuming and modest in his demeanor, he is considered one of the town's solid citizens, and a man of unobtrusive worth."

STANLEY.

The first of this name who emigrated from England was one Matthew Stanley, who settled in Martha's Vineyard. Some members of his family went to Connecticut Colony, and some to Topsfield, this State, and from the latter branch came the ancestors of the Stanleys in this town. Six men came here from Topsfield very early. They were Thomas, Nathaniel, Joseph, Samuel, Jacob, and John, the last three being brothers. The first and the

fourth are known to have been born in 1707, and all settled near the Falls. Jacob, one of the three brothers mentioned, came here about 1717. He married Elizabeth Guild and had ten children. Of these Benjamin was the second son and child. He married Abigail Spear and had three children. Stephen, second son and child, and born here or town, was a farmer, a cartmaker, and for a number of years the agent for the Falls Manufacturing Company. He was an energetic and a successful man, and he lived to a good old age. His wife was Martha, the daughter of Jonathan and Martha Pond Stanley, and they had three children.

STEPHEN OLNEY STANLEY, again the second son and child, and one of the last-mentioned three children, was born June 11, 1801, "in the house (opposite No. 5 schoolhouse)." He had a commonsensical and academic education, but when quite young he entered the "Company's store" at the Falls as clerk for his father. He was occupied there for several years and in addition had farmwork to attend to during the summer months. Later he and his father "closed their connection with the company," and then Mr. Stanley turned his attention wholly to farming. At first he took charge only of his father's farm, but finally became its owner. After his marriage he had lived at his old home and it remained his residence during his life. It is the general idea that the ordinary farmer in New England can get nothing more than a living from his acres. This was the case with Mr. Stanley, though he labored very industriously. "He was a perfectly just man, fair and honorable in all his dealings," and of him it was often said in the familiar phrase, "He was too honest for his own good." He had no doubt too humble an opinion of his own powers to assert himself in the way which seems necessary now to ensure a man's financial success, but he had what was better than that alone: the success of a life of duties conscientiously done; and there can be no better or higher. If his duties were simple, he was content to do them as they came to him without craving something more prominent or striking in the eyes of the world; he had no desire for publicity, though had circumstances demanded he would have proved himself capable of holding office acceptably. What he said of himself shows, however he was unconscious of it, what he really was — a good man. He believed in the principles of true religion but never became a church member, because, as he said, he did not think himself good enough. The best who feel like that are often the best fitted for the places they are best qualified to take. But no matter how retiring they may be their influence for what is highest and best in life cannot be estimated without the happy fruits they themselves produce for it, but as best in the community. Doubtless it is far better and more satisfying, so far as they in their unobtrusiveness dream possible. Mr. Stanley was, as some one has said, "an unassuming and useful member of society, reserved in demeanor, and enjoyed the esteem of all," and of him it could probably be said: "He had not an enemy during his entire life."



1. Debnth's Capron House, built by Henry Sweet, 1760. 2. Wheaton Carpenter House, built nearly one hundred years ago, the timber cut in town. 3. Residence of Edward C. Knapp, and home of Aerial Stanley, the oldest inhabitant in town. 4. Residence of George St. J. Sheffield. 5. First Jewellery Shop in the First Village; was a wing of Holbrook's Tavern. 6. Artisans Stanley House, built before 1700. 7. Old Dr. Stanley House. 8. Old Bishop House, built in 1706, of timber cut in the vicinity.



September 28, 1830, he married Betsey S., the daughter of Artemas and Betsey Daggett Stanley. Mrs. Stanley was a member of the same family as her husband, Jacob, their first ancestor in town, being their common great-grandfather. Her family lived in the west part of the town. Her grandfather was prominent there in the First Congregational Church, and her father in 1841-42 was Representative to the State Legislature. Mr. Stanley died about 1875. He had five children, of whom three are now living: Martha (Mrs. Edward C. Knapp), Benjamin, and Stephen. [First named is dead.]

The latter left home in 1861 to enter the army. He enlisted as a musician in the Seventh Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteers, and after fourteen months' service was discharged, as other musicians were. After a short stay in town he went to Taunton, this State, then to Yonkers, N. Y., where he worked in an armory, then to Waterbury, Conn., where he learned the machinist's trade, and later he worked as a toolmaker in a brass factory. In 1871 he returned to the Falls and formed a partnership with his brother and brother-in-law to manufacture jewelry. The latter has retired from the firm, but the two brothers continue the business together, and they have enjoyed a very considerable degree of prosperity.

The Stanley family has been a numerous one and there have been many branches of it here in town and many of its members have been prominent here and elsewhere. The most prominent of the name now in town is Lyman M. Stanley, resident in the east part. He has for several years been very active in town and especially in district matters. To him chiefly perhaps is due the rise and in large measure the continuance of the division movement of 1886-87. He never from the first doubted its ultimate success, and he worked enthusiastically and persistently—in the face of adverse criticism, which was both abundant and severe—to bring the question to a speedy and final issue. He is as sure of the future increase of prosperity in that portion of the town still named Attleborough as he was of the result of the old town's action before it took place. Dr. William Stanley, previously mentioned, also belongs to this family, whose members, whether they have been agriculturists or business or professional men, seem always to have been distinguished for their industry, intelligence, and honesty of purpose.

Mr. Edward O. Stanley, well known to many in town and formerly a member of the publishing firm of Stanley & Usher, of Boston, is a member of this family, and an Attleborough man.¹

STURDY.

The founder of this family in town and in the country was John Jenkins, who was born of a very good family, in Cardiff, Wales, February 2, 1791.

¹ The Editor wishes to acknowledge her indebtedness to him for many valuable suggestions he has made in regard to the attempt to bring to completion this work, and to express her gratitude for the assistance he so courteously rendered.

ufacturing on the Blackstone river had opened the way for the employment of minors," and Mr. Sturdy availed himself of this opportunity because it had become impossible for him to procure a proper subsistence for his large family from his farm. He resided in several of the manufacturing villages of Rhode Island, and finally settled in Blackstone, then in the town of Mendon, Mass. Here he died, October 16, 1834.¹

After the lapse of something over twenty years from the time he went away, one after another of his sons returned to this town to settle, until six of the eight became residents, and four of these remain still as permanent citizens.

JOHN F. STURDY is the oldest of these four. He was born in this town, and was probably not more than five or six years old when his father removed to Rhode Island. As a boy and youth he worked in the cotton mills in the several villages where his family resided. He began business for himself in Providence, in 1848, with his brother James. They made dies, cutters, and tools for jewelers' use. After continuing this occupation for a few months, the manufacture of jewelry was added to it and both continued for a short time, when the brothers decided to remove to this town. In 1849 the business was located at Robinsonville, with a third partner. The Sturdys had "discovered the process of making what is now known as rolled or stock plate," and their firm of Draper, Sturdy & Co. was the first to introduce this stock into Attleborough and to manufacture here rolled-gold plate jewelry. They also made known their process of making this plate to some other jewelers, and the result was a very general adoption of their method. Mr. Sturdy had several partners during the first twelve or fourteen years of his residence here, but from 1862 until 1875 he was alone in business. During the latter year one of his sons became associated with him, and subsequently two others, and the firm then assumed its present name.

¹ For the benefit of the younger members of the present generation, who know nothing of mill operatives except as they are to be found to-day, it should be said that in the early days of cotton manufacturing the people who sought employment in the factories were of a totally different class. So-called "skilled labor" is not required by the improved machinery in our cotton mills at the present time, but the fact which most fully explains the change that has taken place in the class of employees is that sixty years ago the avenues of industry open in New England villages to people of intelligence, those of skill of mind as well as hand, were very limited in number as compared with to-day, and such as then presented themselves had of necessity to be made use of until others more desirable and suitable could be found and entered upon. To a certain extent what was true in cotton has been true in our own greater manufacture, jewelry. Very much is now accomplished by machinery which could formerly be done only by clever men by handwork, and therefore a large proportion, comparatively, of the employees in the shops are unskilled. A class has sprung up in our communities scarcely known a half-century ago, when the sons of the settlers of the soil, our solid and substantial citizens, who in their turn became our worthiest and leading citizens, began life as workers "at the bench." It can readily be seen then that the first employees in the mills were from among the best people in their various communities. To the capable, intelligent, and ambitious, as notably in the case of the Sturdy family, and indeed in others in our own town, this occupation was but the first stepping-stone to great advancement and to the gaining of most excellent positions in after life, positions calculated to satisfy high ambitions.

Mr. Sturdy's residence is at Robinsonville, now a part of the Falls, and at no great distance from the spot of his birth. He is interested in the improvement and beautifying of this pleasant little village, and many years ago took steps in that direction by making an attractive home for himself, which he surrounded by well-kept grounds. The neighbors are gone in this respect. The fruits of their success are expended in making for themselves suitable and beautiful homes, which can always be sustained in a suitable manner and strictly within their means. But they do not stop here; the comfort of the family properly secured, they turn their attention to works of general improvement and benevolence.

Mr. John Sturdy is no exception in this respect. He is a liberal man in matters of charity. He was especially generous in his gifts to the Central Church Society, and was one of the unusually efficient building committee when its edifice was erected. All that he does is done quietly, for anything like ostentation is unknown to him; but he does his full share of what pertains to one in his position, that of a highly esteemed man and citizen of Amherst.

JAMES H. STURDY was born in this town September 26, 1823. In 1827 the family left town. Twenty-two years afterward, in 1849, he returned, and, as has been stated, commenced manufacturing jewelry at Robinsonville with his brother, J. F. Sturdy, and H. M. Draper, a pioneer in making rolled-gold plate or stock. He left this firm at the end of a year and went to the Falls, then a village distinct entirely from the other, and there formed a partnership with H. F. Barrows, with Ira Richards & Co. as silent partners. This arrangement lasted about three years, the firm meanwhile moving to North Attleborough to a shop owned by the Richards. Previous to the expiration of the term of partnership Mr. Sturdy sold out his interest to Mr. Barrows. He then formed another copartnership and went to Sheltonville, where he built a shop. At the end of some two or three years indentments were held out which decided him to remove to Wrentham Centre. It had been difficult to procure customers for soap, there being in many cases held by the larger firms, and in Wrentham Centre advantages in this direction were offered. There Mr. Sturdy again built a shop, and he was the first jewelry manufacturer in that town. He remained there until 1860.

About that time his firm met with financial difficulties, and, soon after, the breaking out of the war caused a general prostration of business. These were the causes of the dissolution of the firm, and Mr. Sturdy came to East Attleborough and took up his residence. He there soon engaged in making badges for the use of soldiers, and for a year or two this was the principal business in that village, the demand being very small for goods in the regular lines of jewelry business. After the peculiar disturbances which were caused by the outbreak of the Rebellion had subsided, and the country had settled itself to a long state of war, business generally gradually came back to its

regular lines, and badge-making after a time gave place largely to the former ordinary kinds of ornament manufacturing, which increased very largely.

Mr. Sturdy remained alone until 1867, when he associated with himself Fred. I. Marcy, who had previously been acting as his salesman, and the business of this firm was carried on in Providence. This business was prosperous, and the firm continued unchanged for ten years. At the end of that time, in 1877, the senior partner sold his interest to the junior and retired from active business. While carrying on his manufacturing in Providence, Mr. Sturdy retained his residence in this town, and still continues to do so.

CHARLES H. STURDY was born in Slatersville, R. I., June 28, 1828. When but eight or nine years old he began to work in a cotton mill and continued to do so to a greater or less extent for some ten years. Then, when about eighteen, he left home and found employment for a time in Fall River. His childhood stories of the father's former occupation may have been alluring to his imagination, for in 1846 he went to sea. A voyage of seven months was sufficient to remove all glamour, if there had been such, and on his return home he went to Blackstone with his brother William and there learned the painter's trade. After this he worked in Connecticut for a while, both in a factory and at his trade. Very naturally, however, his attention became turned toward Attleborough and the jewelry business, and about 1850 he came to Robinsonville and learned that trade in his brother's establishment there. This done he went to Plainville and there became foreman for Draper, Tift & Bacon.

In 1859 he came to East Attleborough and entered into business with his brother Albert. The shop in which they were located having been burned, the firm went temporarily to Mansfield. The manufacturing was brought back to East Attleborough in 1861, and from that time until 1863, during his brother's absence in the army, Mr. Sturdy had entire charge of the business. He was a member of the firm until 1871, when he retired. He had shared in the misfortunes and dull times of its early days, and he remained long enough to share in its prosperity during the years immediately following the close of the war. Soon after his withdrawal Mr. Sturdy took up coal business, and has continued it ever since, and is one of the largest dealers in town.

In 1868 he married Eliza J. Hodges. They have two children: Ella J., Mrs. James E. Blake, residing in town, and Charles A., just completing his education. [He is married and resides in town.]

ALBERT W. STURDY is the eighth and youngest son and the thirteenth child in his family. He was born in Blackstone, March 4, 1831. The first seventeen years of his life were spent in that place and in Manville, a village in the town of Smithfield, R. I., on the Blackstone River. He was able to attend school only until he was ten years old, and then he began to work in the factories as a bobbin-boy. After a few years the opportunity for

learning an excellent trade was offered in his brother's shop here, and at the age of eighteen he came to Robinsonville, where for two years, from 1849 till 1851, he worked as an apprentice for Draper & Sturdy. At the end of that time, "having by even-work and strict economy, saved a sufficient sum of money," the young man determined to possess himself of what he had learned to know was of the highest value and for the lack of which he could find nothing else could fully compensate him—an education. He entered Eastford Academy in Vermont, and remained two years. This was a course of action which cannot be too highly recommended, one whose good results are themselves patent to everybody, and all youths in similar circumstances would do well to follow Mr. Sturdy's example.

After completing his studies, as he had planned to do, he returned to this town, and took the place of bookkeeper for Barrows & Sturdy. Early in the year 1852 he went to New York City to act as salesman for J. H. Sturdy & Co., and remained in the employ of this firm until 1859, when he again returned to town and with his brother Charles formed the partnership previously mentioned and known as Sturdy Brothers. The first two years of this firm's existence were trying ones, though during that time its managers had succeeded in establishing a business; but the breaking out of the war for a time prostrated everything.

Mr. Sturdy, and many others, felt that the outbreak would soon be quelled and business would therefore soon again resume its normal condition—a widespread hope which was soon dispelled. On hearing the news of our defeat at the first battle of Bull Run he enlisted, and on July 23, 1861, he enrolled himself as a private in Company L, Eighteenth Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteers, the recruiting for which was being carried on at Wrentham Centre. This regiment was attached to the Fifth Corps of the Army at the Potomac and served through the Peninsular, General Pope's and Maryland campaigns. After the battle of Shepardstown, Va., which occurred September 20, 1862, Mr. Sturdy, with other members of the regiment, was detailed to return to Massachusetts "on recruiting service." On reaching Boston he found a company of his second lieutenant awaiting him and he was transferred to Company K of his regiment. He remained at home in the discharge of these recruiting duties about six weeks and then returned to the front. His regiment was at Falmouth, Va., and he joined it in time to participate in the battle of Fryingpanburg, on the thirteenth of December, 1862. He was in command of a company and in the second charge made by the Eighteenth on Marye's Heights "he received a gun shot wound through the middle of his left foot." He was taken to Seminary Hospital at Georgetown, D. C., and kept there for six weeks. During that time he received a commission as first lieutenant from Governor Andrew. He was finally able to reach home, by the aid of crutches, about February, 1863. His leave of absence was necessarily extended several times, his

progress toward recovery was so slow; and in April, under a "General Order" issued by the War Department, he returned to Washington, there to be examined as to his ability to again perform active service within a certain stated time. The Surgeon-General, after the required examination, "placed him on the list for permanent discharge," and this was obtained April 22, 1863. It was a great while before he apparently recovered from the effects of his wound, and some of these are probably felt even now and always will be; but no man can regret a disability sustained in such a service or fail to be proud of so honorable a scar.

Mr. Sturdy very soon resumed his place in his firm, and just at that time there was a general revival of business throughout the North. Until the close of the war there were large orders for army badges of all kinds received by this firm; but for some time before, the legitimate lines of jewelry had been gaining ground and were subsequently taken up exclusively. From 1866 till 1870 Mr. Sturdy resided in Brooklyn, as during those years he assumed that portion of the business connected with the firm's New York office. He retained his active interest in the concern until 1885, when he sold it out, but became a special partner for a limited term.

October 4, 1862, while at home on special detached service, he was married to Fidelia Page Thorp at her birthplace, South Boston. They have had three children: Irene Thorp, Mrs. Frederick Paul Hill, a widow; Clara Page, Mrs. Alfred F. Simmons; and a son, Albert W., Jr., who died at the age of four.

Mr. Sturdy was the pioneer in building handsome houses on South Main Street, as he commenced his just in advance of his nearest neighbor, Mr. Dean. He is a promoter of public improvements and of good works. He was one of the organizers of the Murray Parish and lent efficient aid in the building of its edifice. He has recently presented the society with a fine organ, which is called by his name, and to which gift he attached a very commendable condition, namely, that, should it be so desired by a proper number of persons in the village, the church should be opened for a course of lectures each winter season. He is secretary and treasurer of the Attleborough Gas Light Company and a director in the Attleborough Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He is a charter member of William A. Streeter Post, G. A. R., and a member of Ezekiel Bates Lodge of F. and A. M. He favored town division because he believed the resulting effects would prove to be beneficial to both portions, but he advocated its being brought about by vote of a majority of the citizens and in no other way. He disapproved entirely of the course suggested by some, of carrying the matter to the Legislature for further authoritative action in the event of the failure of favorable action on the part of the town. If the vote of July, 1887, had been against instead of for division, he and others who believed as he did would still have advocated the avoiding of any further public action for a time and have urged the wisdom of waiting until the idea, which seemed to be steadily

growing ground, should reach that point where it would naturally have reached had it grown. In other words he joined with those who were willing to have the "great result" delayed in order to have it effected by the desire of the majority of the people of the town.

The Study farm is a striking illustration of what ability and determination can accomplish. These were their chief; indeed their only inheritance, and the result marks them as of more value than lands or gold. The sons fought bravely against the adverse circumstances of their early life and came out of the contest signally victorious; by their own inherent energy compelling the very disadvantages themselves to work in their favor, until by their own efforts they attained the positions to which by character and talents they were justly entitled, and which they fully earned. The name assumed by chance, if there be *chance*, was especially appropriate to the father, who had need of and showed sturdy fortitude, obstinacy, and "pluck" in the adventurous life which circumstances compelled him to enter in his early youth, and he needed great sturdiness to enable him to meet the many difficulties of some of his later years. There must too have been a spirit of unusual firmness and resolution in the mother, who was left when comparatively young to rear her little family alone. Such traits have enabled these sons to meet life and conquer it financially; and that is hard, but that is not all. Having reached positions without struggling for, they make use of the wealth meanwhile acquired in ways tending to improve and benefit the communities where they live. It is a good thing for Atholborough that the family settled within her limits and that so many of them have found a permanent home here.

THACHER

The ancestors of this family who early came to this country from England have been mentioned in the account of the Rev. Peter Thacher, so long the exemplary and honored pastor of the Second Congregational Church in this town. Rev. Mr. Thacher had ten children, of whom Peter was the second son and oldest son. He was born in Atholborough October 21, 1768, and died December 4, 1814. He married Nancy, the daughter of Captain John Tyler, of this town. They had four children, of whom Peter was the oldest.

DENCON PETER THACHER was born March 20, 1792. Like his father, he was a farmer and lived on the place still in the possession of the family and used as the residence of one of the daughters. The house was built by the minister grandfather. At the proper season he had a house "raising," when, that fall, "he got upon the roof, and made a fervent prayer, dedicating it to God."¹ Dencon Thacher, as he was almost always familiarly called, was a man

¹ Upon the ground where, legend, there stands quietly was known of her time when the family community house and other houses, a number of low houses were upon the site, and some legend of community. At Atholborough, H. H. Mr. Thacher, of Atholborough, H. H. & Co. (Newbury, Mass.)

who commanded the entire respect of everybody. Many who did not know him personally can recall his tall, dignified form crowned with its covering of white hair, moving slowly up the aisles of the church of which he was so long a consistent member, and where he so long—even for fifty years—ministered in the deacon's office. His contemporaries have all passed away, but some remain who knew him in his middle life and as an old man, and all can testify to the esteem in which he was ever held.

He was a man of excellent judgment both in church matters and in general affairs. That his integrity was trusted and his judgment relied on is demonstrated by the fact that he was called upon to settle many estates and to become the guardian of many children. He was a conservative man. He took a very decided stand upon all questions, and having carefully and deliberately made up his mind he was sure to abide by his decisions. He was stern but just, and strictly honest, literally "his word was as good as his bond." It is related that upon one occasion a business man of this town, one whose property was doubtless worth several times the amount of Deacon Thacher's, had met with some difficulty in effecting a loan. It being necessary for him to have some money at once, he applied for assistance to Mr. Thacher, whom he found plowing. The good deacon left his plow, went to the bank, and had no trouble whatever in getting the required sum, his credit was so good. He was the first president of the Bristol County Agricultural Society and was treasurer of many different societies in the course of his life. During the War of 1812 he was frequently employed in carting specie for the government, another proof of his trustworthiness.

He married first, on May 7, 1801, Saloma, the daughter of Abial Dunham, of this town. Their children were four in number, only one of whom is now living, Anne Tyler Claffin, widow of Deacon Harvey Claffin, of this town. His second wife was Susan Carpenter, of Foxborough, by whom he also had four children: Susan, John, William, and Calista, three of whom are residents here. He died at his own homestead September 20, 1863, aged eighty-four years, five months, and twenty days. Mrs. Thacher was for a great many years the earnest and devoted superintendent of the Infant Sabbath-school in the Second Congregational Church. She taught the simple truths of the gospel to many little ones and turned many feet toward the paths of righteousness. Her good face and kindly eyes, beaming mildly through her spec-

have put my house and Ten acres of the best land upon my Farm to sale but if I sell shall reserve the use of the House till the Year comes about, and in that time if God spare my life endeavor to site a New One." The date, then, was probably about 1750, and may be deemed more certain from the fact that he married shortly after the letter quoted was written. The naming of some old lands has recently brought to light one or two interesting facts relating to the stream running by the Thacher homestead and now called Thacher's Brook. In olden times it was evidently called Wolf-bridge Run, frequent mention of that run being found in transfers of land to the vicinage, and in one place reference is made to a sawmill upon it. There are indications of a mill to be found on the brook near the road bridge over it, where a fence now runs down into the water, but no mention of any owner has as yet been found.

tales upon the raptured faces as she stood in the little room and talked to her sisters, are among cherished memories of childhood, not only in the old parish itself, but far outside its limits. Mrs. Thacher outlived her husband for twenty years, and for a considerable portion of the time she remained at the old home. She finally removed to the village, where she lived with her two daughters, at whose house she died June 8, 1883, at the age of eighty-seven.

Peter Thacher, eldest son of Deacon Peter and Salome Thacher, was born July 29, 1812, and was the only son by the first wife. He was the seventh in direct descent from Thomas Thacher, who was the first minister of the Old South Church in Boston, and was the eighth of the name Peter, in different generations, known to the family. His education was limited, for his schooldays ended in 1828, when he was sixteen. The two previous years he had spent at the academies of Wrentham and Amherst, and the following year he was a worker on his father's farm. In 1830 he left home determined to achieve fortune for himself. He went to Taunton, where his first engagement was to a house-keeping for a year, "for forty dollars and board," and this proved to be the foundation of after success. He remained in Taunton two years. In 1834 he found employment with the Boston & Providence Railroad Company as a mechanic. By his ability he won the confidence of the company, and he was promoted to the responsible position of superintendent of construction, a position which he filled in a thoroughly satisfactory manner.

For the next thirteen years—from 1836 to 1849—three years excepted he was engaged as a contractor in the building and as a superintendent in the putting into operation of some thirteen different railroads, and always with success. The Stonington, the Norwich and Worcester, the Taunton and New Bedford, the Vermont Central, and the Hudson River railroads are among the number. During the three years 1843-44-45, he was occupied in the construction of Forts Warren and Independence in Boston Harbor. Mr. Wright, then superintendent of engineers at Fort Warren, said of him at that time: "He possesses a thorough acquaintance with his business, and combines great intelligence with an uncommon degree of faithfulness in the discharge of duty. I feel assured that whoever is as faithful as to command his men, will extend this great acquisition."

In 1850 Mr. Thacher gained control of the Howe patent bridge. He associated himself with two other gentlemen under the firm name of Thacher, Hart & Co., and after this removed to Cleveland, Ohio. He became one of the leading bridge-builders in the West and constructed bridges on most of the original railroads in Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, and Kentucky. In 1862 he rebuilt that bridge over the Cumberland River at Nashville, Tenn., which was destroyed early in the war. It was his firm which erected the Union elevator in Cleveland with such marked success. In 1865 he withdrew

from the firm. Later he became engaged in other enterprises, and in these success always attended him.

Mr. Thacher was a man who never sought preferment, but he held various public offices of importance and trust in the city of his adoption and he was also an officer in several literary and historical associations there and elsewhere. He always took an active interest "in public institutions, churches, schools, and charitable associations, his purse and influence being always at command to advance the cause of education and benevolence." He was a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity of Cleveland, holding the highest honors of the craft in Lodge, Chapter, Council, and Commandery. He was one of the organizers of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry in Cleveland, which is a highly prosperous and respected body. For the eighteen years previous to his death he was treasurer of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templars of Ohio, and as a mark of respect for him his name was given to a Chapter and Lodge in Cuyahoga County in that state. He died at Cleveland, February 12, 1880, and was buried in that city with the impressive ceremonies of the Masonic fraternity. "At his decease each Masonic body with which he had been connected adopted resolutions testifying to his faithfulness to the institutions, and their deep sorrow at the demise of one who could truly be called an *honest man*."

May 6, 1849, Mr. Thacher married Sarah Adams Estabrook, of West Cambridge, now Arlington, Mass. They had three children: Annie, who died at an early age; John, the younger son, who resides in Cleveland; and Peter. He became blind when about fourteen years of age, and now with his mother resides near Sanford, Fla. [He died there during the winter of 1890-91.]

WILLIAM T. THACHER was the youngest son of Deacon Thacher and was born in this town April 26, 1830. He attended the public schools here and finished his education at Wrentham Academy. He was among the first to be attacked by the gold fever, and in '49, when but nineteen years old, he went around the Horn to California and remained there six years. Soon after his return home he married Anna, the daughter of Rev. James O. Barney, so long the pastor of the Congregational Church at Seekonk. He went to Hyde Park to reside and was one of the pioneers in the settlement of that pretty suburb of Boston. He was a member of the large real estate and brokerage firm of Blake, Bradbury & Thacher there. He soon acquired a handsome competency and made for himself a beautiful home, where his many friends always found a hospitable welcome. Subsequently reverses came upon him and he lost his property.

He entered the army in the Civil War and during his service was wounded. The last four years of his life he resided in Boston, where he had organized and built up an extensive business. "Force," says one, "was the key-note of his character. Nothing could daunt him, no reverses could dishearten.

In youth he was of a raring disposition, and always a man of resolute will and restless energy. His force and independence of character — legitimate advantages — developed themselves at a very early age. When only six years old he went one day with his father to Providence and there became lost. The father and hired man, each supposing him to be with the other, drove home. The father at once started back to the city to search for him and have him "retrieved" by the town clock. His efforts were unsuccessful, and he was finally obliged to turn homeward again without finding his son, but he was met on the way by the man with the joyful intelligence that the boy had reached home safely. The little fellow, on finding himself lost, still "kept his head," as the common phrase expresses it, and tried to find his father. As he stated to himself, he "inquired for Deacon Thacher, and nobody did not know Deacon Thacher." Not discouraged or frightened he then inquired the way to the railroad station, knowing that the railway passed near his house, "and tramped along manfully, till he reached home." Not many boys at that age could have shown such good sense or have had the courage to take a walk of eleven miles at nightfall.

Mr. Thacher's last illness was one of great length and characterized by intense suffering, which he bore with extreme patience and cheerfulness. He had in his later years become so strong an advocate of temperance that he could hardly be persuaded to take the necessary stimulants during this long sickness. He died in Boston, July 15, 1884, leaving his wife and one son to survive him. At his special request he was buried by the side of his mother in the family lot in the Old Kirk Yard here.

JOHN THACHER, the oldest son by his father's second wife, was born November 4, 1828. After the common-school course in town he attended the famous Phillips Academy at Andover, Mass. After completing his studies there he taught school for some time, but finally took up the occupation his father and grandfather had followed, and became a farmer on the same old homestead place, where he has always resided. He has been tax collector for the town for many years, is treasurer of the Second Congregational Parish and of the Agricultural Association. Careful and correct in all financial matters, he fills these positions well. His long continuance in office at Old East Church, last pastor of MR. JOHN KIMBLE, and this has been a fitting family trait for many generations. He is not a strong man like his father, though he is none the less a man of good judgment, able to form correct opinions and to express them clearly and decidedly but without severity; and he is none the less a just man and perfectly honorable in all his dealings. He is altogether an interesting man, but especially kind, generous and considerate. He is continually doing thoughtful deeds in a kindly, quiet way, which the recipients remember pleasantly and gratefully. Whatever work falls to his lot to do is well done. He leaves no loosened ends for

others to pick up and finish. He fills an important place in his community and the town, the place of a faithful, useful man and citizen.

In 1876 Mr. Thacher married Ida Bullock, of Smithfield, Penn. She is a descendant of the family of that name in Rehoboth. They have two children: John Judson and Carroll Clark Thacher. [Mrs. Thacher died December 21, 1893.]

TIFFANY.

Three brothers of this name came to this country from England at a very early period, and five generations of the family have resided in this town. The first to come here was James, who settled on what is still known as the "Tiffany farm." There have been three houses built on this place and occupied by the family. The original one was on a little knoll to the northeast of the site of the last one; the second occupied a position to the south of this; the third and last one was burned in 1875 and had stood a hundred years. Those who lived at the old homestead were, after James, Ebenezer, his son; Joseph, his grandson; and Joseph Albert, his great-grandson. A brother of the first Joseph, Comfort by name, went from here to Killingly, Conn., and engaged in the business of manufacturing cotton there. His son, Charles L. Tiffany, is the founder of the great house of Tiffany & Co., which, besides its magnificent establishment in New York, has others in London, Paris, Geneva, and elsewhere, and is probably the largest house of its kind in the world. Louis C. Tiffany, of New York, the artist of high rank and extended reputation, is the son of Mr. Charles Tiffany.

There was a Comfort Tiffany, second, a nephew of the first, who was born here, and though he early removed from town he was during his entire life a frequent visitor to his native place. He had two sons, O. H. and C. C. Tiffany, who became clergymen of repute, one in the Methodist, the other in the Episcopal Church. These brothers were at one time settled in the city of New York over churches whose yards joined. Many of the members of the Tiffany family are buried in the little cemetery not far from the old home, the burial place lying just beyond Dodgeville, as one journeys towards Hebronville.

Joseph Albert Tiffany, above mentioned, married Eunice Capron Bradfield, of Smithfield. Her father was a privateersman and was at one time taken prisoner. He had his initials pricked on his arm while on board the "old Jersey prison-ship." Mr. Tiffany had seven children: Julia A., Mrs. George W. Bliss, of Rehoboth; Charlotte M., Mrs. Lewis L. Read, of this town; Ebenezer C., long a resident of this town and vicinity, and now located at San Mateo, Fla.; J. Osmond; William H., who married Lydia, oldest daughter of Zenas B. Carpenter, of this town, and who resides here; Frances P., who married Erastus Jacobs, of Dudley, and now resides in Providence; and Laura B. Tiffany. [Mr. Ebenezer Tiffany died in Boston recently.]

JOSEPH OSWEND TIFFANY was born at the old homestead (as were all his family) on January 26, 1836. After going to the public, then called the district, schools of his vicinity he attended the Atholborough Academy, then under the charge of Mr. James H. Bailey. He was there prepared for college, and he entered Amherst, graduating in the class of 1859. After his return home he soon commenced teaching. His first school was in Marshfield, where he remained one winter. Subsequently he taught at East Atholborough in the academy, where he had previously received instruction. At that time the school properly contained two districts, the pupils from which had free attendance, but those who came from other parts of the town or from out of town paid for their tuition. Mr. Tiffany's next position was as a teacher in the grammar school at North Atholborough, where he had one hundred and thirty-nine scholars and but one assistant. Happily school committees have learned that the mental and physical organization of school teachers is much like that of ordinary people and has its limit of endurance, and that assignments like the one in question are unprofitable, because a teacher can do justice neither to his pupils nor to himself if he has charge of so large a number. Before he gave up his vocation of teaching permanently Mr. Tiffany saw many great strides taken here in town in the way of improvements upon the old system under which he began. Following his experience at North Atholborough he taught for a year at the academy in Richmond, Maine. Then he returned home and entered business. This was not particularly agreeable to him nor did it prove especially profitable, so it was relinquished after a few years.

In 1872 he became principal of the East High School and retained the position for twelve years, when he resigned it. This action was greatly to the regret of his pupils and to that of the community at large. Mr. Tiffany is a man well fitted by character and acquirements for the office of an instructor. Versed in both classical and general lore, he is capable of giving instruction in the highest branches. He has the faculty, which is by no means too common, of imparting knowledge intelligently, in clear, concise terms, and he has also that important requisite—a taste for such work. These characteristics made him a successful teacher. He had the right idea of placing pupils upon their honor and of making them do all the work possible as the only means of real development, though he never withheld needed assistance. An experience related by one of his High School graduates here will illustrate his method. A task was set to a certain class ~~in the~~ (in graduating year) which seemed to the majority to present unusual difficulties. However, they went to work, studied hard, and tried to do their best, till they had many discouragements, and, what was worse of all, they felt uncertain as to whether they were doing well in the eyes of their teacher. Finally the obstacles were overcome and the task completed. Then the teacher warmly commended their efforts, praised the manner in

which they had worked and the quality of the work they had accomplished, told them he had been watching their progress with pleasure and satisfaction, and gave them credit for a greater degree of success than he had expected. The surprise and pleasure thus given to the class were sufficient to "more than make up for all the trials, and disappointments, and hard work." Another scholar said: "Mr. Tiffany rarely praised us, but when he did we felt we deserved it, and were more than compensated for all the discouragements and criticisms that had come to us before."

While a student himself Mr. Tiffany was always particularly interested in astronomy, chemistry, and studies of a similar nature, and has during his life kept up a special interest in them. Some time since he purchased a six-inch telescope, and this has given his pupils great pleasure and been profitable to them as well. He has also at times given lectures, using his telescope in the way of illustration. Since resigning his position as principal of the High School in the spring of 1884, he has not been engaged in any special occupation. On December 5, 1865, he married Caroline French, of this town. They have no children. [He is at present superintendent of schools in Attleborough.]

WALES.

General Nathaniel Wales, of England, was the paternal ancestor of this family. His son Nathaniel came to this country in 1635 with Richard Mather. The progenitor on the maternal side was Thomas Thacher, rector of St. Edmund's Church in Salisbury, England, who also emigrated in 1635 and later became pastor of the Old South Church in Boston. Nathaniel Wales died in Boston, May 20, 1665. He had a son Nathaniel, who was a general. Rev. Atherton Wales was the son of General Nathaniel, and his fifteenth child. He was born March 8, 1704. He graduated at Harvard College in 1726 and became pastor of the Second Church at Marshfield. He died in 1795. He was married three times: first, to Mary, daughter of Rev. Samuel Niles; and, second, to Mary, daughter of Rev. Peter Thacher, of Milton, son of the pastor of the Old South Church. (The name of the third wife is unknown to the author.) General Atherton Wales was their son.

DEACON ATHERTON WALES was the son of General Atherton and was born in Portsmouth, R. I., May 24, 1806. His mother died when he was but seven years old, and his father when he was but fourteen. When he was sixteen he left home and bound himself as an apprentice to Mr. James Shaw, of Newport, R. I., to learn blacksmithing. He served his time for three years, until he was twenty-one, and then went to Pawtucket, then in Massachusetts, where he worked a year for William Fisher at horseshoeing. In 1828 he removed to this town. He was then twenty-two years of age.

In 1830 he married Louisa R. Tyler, a daughter of Dr. Abijah W. Tyler,

by whom he had four sons and two daughters. One child was deceased; the others were: Elizabeth Francis, (deceased); Henry Atherton; Alfred Tyler; Louise Tyler; Mrs. Thomas S. Nye, (deceased); and Charles Nason, (deceased). Subsequently he was married three times, but never had other children.

In 1832 he became a member of the Second Congregational Church and was chosen one of its Deacons November 3, 1848. During the year 1836-37 Mr. Wales resided in Providence, R. I., for about eight months. With that exception he has lived in this town since he first settled here. He died at his home on County Street, where he had resided for forty-seven years, on August 2, 1888.

One writing at the time of his death says: "For forty years connected with the second Congregational church as one of its Deacons, no one was better known in all its services, and though some time has transpired since he has been missed from its active duties, since his voice has been heard in prayer or praise, many have recalled the force of his words and that he was ever steadfast in all times of trial in his duty to its best interests. Though he might not rashly put out his hand and touch the Ark he walked beside it in his own integrity of purpose, firm and unswerving. He was well versed in the Scriptures which gave him great power as an instructor in the Sabbath-school, where he had a large class for successive years. He was a man of marked individuality of character, of methodical habits in his home and business, a kind husband and good father. He was not afraid to stand alone when in the right, as was evinced by his being one of six who cast the first Abolition votes in this town." He attended to all the obligations of life with fidelity. He was honest and upright in all things. He was decided and firm, but reasonable, responsive, but not dictatorial. For more than a generation he performed the duties of his deacon's office. His judgment in church affairs was deemed wise and his advice prudent to follow. He was often the peculiar reliance of both pastors and officers of the church, as it has been expressed, "Often during times of trouble, Deacon Wales has been the rudder and dependence."

"By reason of strength" he attained to and passed the period of fourscore years. He lived long, he labored hard, but ever with contentment of spirit. He sought his active life in the occupation with which he began it, satisfaction with the moderate compensations of his hard, but honest daily toil. He never desired to change or enlarge the sphere in which he was placed, but he desired to do his duty "in the fear of God." In striving to gain the approval of his Maker, he gained what all desire, the approval of his fellow-men. His example is worthy of imitation, and his death was the peaceful termination of a useful life.

HERBERT A. WILSON was born in this town, at the Falls, April 16, 1832. When the father first came to town, he worked at his trade in a shop at "Hillsborough," later going to the Falls, where several of his children

were born. After residing there for some years, he removed to Providence, where he remained for some months, and then returned permanently to this town. With the exception of this short period during his very early childhood, and of about a year's time during 1850-51, when he was again in Providence learning the watchmaker's trade, Henry lived here up to the time he was twenty-seven years old. He received the preparatory education necessary to fit him for college in the academies of the town, but his health did not permit him to enter upon such a course of study. In 1852 he entered the Normal School at Bridgewater, but again his health interfered with his wishes, and he was obliged to leave before completing the prescribed course. He was a boy and youth of unusual talent in many directions. He was clever at his books and a remarkably good reader and speaker, in every way adapted to thoroughly appreciate and enjoy the pleasures and benefits to be derived from an extended course of study.

At the age of twenty-two he commenced teaching and has continued that vocation in various departments ever since. He was principal of the Blackstone schools in 1859 and of those in Central Falls in 1863. Having decided to enter the ministry, he began about that time to make special preparations for the work and in 1865 entered "the old East Windsor Hill Theological Seminary at Hartford, Conn.," and in the autumn of the following year, 1866, "was ordained at and installed over the Elmwood Congregational Church, (now Providence.)" He remained there five years and then resigned. In 1868 he was professor of elocution in the well-known Mowry and Goff School in Providence. In 1871 he accepted the pastorate of the Congregational Church in Stonington, Conn., where he continued three years, resigning in 1874. During the same year he was settled over the Congregational Church at Leominster, Mass., where he also continued three years, and then withdrew from the pastorate because of some changes in his belief with regard to the orthodox creed.

During 1877 he removed to Cambridge and lived there for a year without any pastoral charge, and in 1878 he commenced to preach for the Universalist Society in Biddeford, Me. In 1879 he was there elected a member of the State Legislature. Having still further modified or changed some of his religious views, he began in 1880 to preach in Biddeford as an Independent preacher. This course he pursued for four years, and then went to Big Rapids, Mich., where he became preacher to the Unitarian Society in that place. Still again ill health compelled a relinquishment of work in which he was engaged, and in 1888 he resigned this charge, thus far his last ministerial one. Since that time he has been engaged in literary work.

Since he was a young man Mr. Wales has been more or less occupied with literary, journalistic, and editorial work of various kinds. He was at one time professor of belles-lettres in Cincinnati, Ohio, while holding a position in D. Appleton & Co.'s office there, and during that time he edited Appleton's

"*Colquhoun of Biography*." He was a special writer for the *Big Rapids Daily Pioneer* while he resided in that city, and now, having returned to his former place of residence in Maine, he is special writer for the *Eastern Daily Journal*. This brief statement of facts shows that his life has been one of frequent changes. Many of them were no doubt forced upon him by the state of his health, which often obliged him to give up some interesting and absorbing work or relinquish some cherished purpose. The facts show that he yielded to these physical necessities only so far as diligent necessity compelled him to do, by making some alteration in his manner of work, but he never allowed himself to be conquered for any length of time by physical ills, no matter how severe. The facts show too that the promise of his youth has been in great measure fulfilled, and that his talents, which are of "an exalted order," have been recognized, for they have caused him to be placed in honorable positions. Brought up, as so many New England boys of his day were, in the strictest requirements of a rigid orthodoxy, he, like many others who started under the same exacting rule, in later years has unflinchingly changed his views upon various points, accepting doctrines broader and freer than any the fathers knew; and, unlike many, he has not been afraid to frankly acknowledge these changes of belief, but has ever had the courage of his opinions.

He and Mr. Wales were married in March, Mass., to Miss Harriet Louisa Winslow, of this town. Their father and young children, Henry A., born in 1848, and daughter, now an old maid and called "Miss General," born in 1850, emigrated in 1880 to Louis S. Conway, of Hallowell, Maine, and thence, son, Harry B., born in 1886, married in 1890 to Miss Harriette, 1901, of Massachusetts, and Joseph, Atherton, born in 1887, married in 1887 to Maria Myron Winslow, of Big Rapids, and has one daughter, born in 1894.

Reading has been a particularly precious habit of Mr. Wales from early childhood, and that fact has been among the features of the education which he is the credit of the first and most conspicuous of Germany, 1864, with the result he is a writer of the national Standard, he never tried to fulfil the duties of the position.

ARLIGH T. WALES, the next younger son of Deacon Wales, was born at the Falls, June 21, 1837. He had no advantages in the way of a school education beyond those afforded by the town, and of those he could avail himself only until he was fourteen years of age, at which time he entered his father's shop to learn the trade of a blacksmith, the trade which he made his business and followed for about thirty years. All that he has attained beyond the scanty book learning the few short years of his school life afforded has been the result of his own exertions and gained by intelligent reading, by contact with men, and by participation in public affairs. He evinced a genuine interest in public and political affairs before he reached the age of eighteen, "and by ardently urging the claims and arguments of the Anti Slavery and Free Soil parties from the years between 1840 and 1850 he was regarded as a method by many old parties, and in the birth of the Republican Party became one of the foremost of its supporters in the town." Since that early period he has frequently been called upon for more prominent parts

for his party in its conduct of local political concerns. At the age of twenty-three he "was elected by the republicans of Attleboro' to represent them in the State convention at Worcester," and that year, 1856, he cast his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont.

He enlisted on August 9, 1862, as a private in Company II, Fortieth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, declining to accept a commission which was proffered him. He was immediately detailed on recruiting service by Adjutant-General Schouler, his duty being to raise recruits in this town and vicinity. Having performed this service according to orders, he joined his regiment in Virginia about the middle of November following. On the twenty-fourth of December, the same year, at the request of Governor Andrew he was transferred by special order of the War Department to the Second Massachusetts Cavalry. He served in that regiment until his term expired by reason of a general order of the War Department, which discharged at a certain time all soldiers who enlisted previous to October 1, 1862. The last year of his service in the army he was farrier in charge at Cavalry Reserve Brigade Headquarters in the cavalry corps of Sheridan's command in the Shenandoah Valley. He was discharged from this position at Clouds Mills, Va., June 22, 1865, and returned home.

Within three months of that time he decided to locate in Middleborough, this State, and carry on his former business there. He made the necessary preparations and removed with his family to that place in September, 1865. He not only took up his former occupation, but resumed his former interest in political and general matters as well, and while a resident of Middleborough he was actively engaged in its public affairs. He organized the Grand Army post in that town, the eighth organized in the State. He was elected its first commander and subsequently reelected during three successive years.

In September, 1872, Mr. Wales returned to this town, conducting his business at his father's old shop on County Street in the East village and residing with him in the old home. This he continued to do for sixteen years, caring for his father during a long period of constantly increasing infirmity of both body and mind. He still resides there, but no longer conducts the business. In 1873 he was elected to the board of selectmen, assessors, and overseers of the poor, and in 1874 was chosen commander of William A. Streeter Post. He very soon again became prominent in the political concerns of the town, and held among other positions that of chairman of the Republican Town Committee. He was "elected from the 1st Bristol Representative Dist, as a member of the State Legislature in 1878."

In 1881 he was appointed postmaster at Attleborough. He took charge of the office on June 7 of that year, and after the death of President Garfield he was recommissioned by President Arthur. This commission was dated for four years from October 14, 1881, but Mr. Wales continued to hold the office for some time after its expiration. He gave possession to his

successor, appointed by President Cleveland on June 18, 1889. This appointment was the natural consequence of a change in the men in power and was not hastened by any expressions of dissatisfaction on the part of Mr. Wales' political opponents in town. He performed the duties of postmaster to the satisfaction of all citizens generally. In 1886 he was one of the town assessors and in 1887 again a representative to the State Legislature. [He was re-elected in 1889 and 1890, during each of these years serving on the Finance Committee of the House, and the latter year as Chairman of that committee.]

"During his service in the legislature he became somewhat conspicuous by his determined efforts for the division of the town." He deemed that the true welfare of the two sections would be augmented and their best interests promoted by a separation, and he therefore advocated that course. He has been active in public life for many years and has served well in those positions of responsibility which he has been called upon to occupy by his townsmen and others. He is a man who forms positive opinions upon all points, and he expresses the same decidedly and publicly if occasion demands. In these respects he is like many who are by nature inclined to be strongly partisan and somewhat inflexible in their beliefs, but unlike many he recognizes the fact that others possess the same rights of opinion he claims for himself, and does not condemn as totally wrong those who differ with him. He has proved himself worthy of high positions, and his many friends can but wish him a long continuance in an honorable public career and at their part toward giving him the due reward of still higher degrees of success.

Mr. Wales early evinced a talent for reading and speaking and from the time of his youth up has continued to exercise that talent in a more or less public way. He and his brother both possessed considerable dramatic ability, and pleasant occasions, now a quarter of a century gone, of a social or literary nature, when this was exhibited, will be recalled by many in town and elsewhere at this day. He has delivered one of the Memorial Day orations at Attleborough and similar addresses in other places. While a resident of Middleborough, in 1869, upon the occurrence of the two hundredth anniversary of its incorporation as a town, at the public banquet of the celebration he was called upon to respond to the toast of the "Grand Army," sensibly a compliment as he was not a member of the town.

1. *Successors.* First, Mr. Wales married Josephine, daughter of Edward Williams, of this town. They had two sons, both without issue. Edward Albroton was born in September, 1861, married by Annette, daughter of George, son of Mary Ellen Harvey of that place, and had three children, a son and a girl. Frederick George was April, 1896 and was married in December, 1896, to Mrs. Anna Sargent, of Westport, County Antrim, daughter of that town. Mrs. Wales died in 1886. In December, 1887, Mr. Wales married Anne, daughter of Frederick William Williams, of this town. In 1890 he was succeeded by Mr. L. S. Corbett, successor of William A. Corbett, and the successor of Mr. Corbett to this town and in this town

of Plymouth County," and in 1891 he was appointed "General Dep. Coll. U. S. Internal Revenue," and "assigned to duty under the Revenue Agent for New England States." He has served in that position up to the present time (1894).

WHITING.

The records trace this family back to 1333, when one "William Whytyng," of Boston, England, "was taxed as a citizen." They show one John Whiting to have been mayor of that borough in 1600 and again in 1608, and vice-admiral of Lincolnshire in 1602. Samuel, the son of this John, was at first a clergyman of the Established Church, but later became a nonconformist. This being reported to his Bishop and complained of, he decided it would be best for him to come to this country. He emigrated in 1636 and settled in Lynn, this State. About the same time one Nathaniel Whiting came from Boxford, Suffolk County, England, and settled in Dedham. These two were doubtless relatives, and from them most of the families of their name are descended.

Nathaniel was in 1635 one of the sixty-eight proprietors of Contentment, afterwards Dedham. In 1641 he bought a watermill "and all lands, privileges, and appurtenances thereto belonging." For over two hundred years there have been saw and grist mills on this site owned and operated by Whitings. Many of the family were agriculturists, and for generations some of the best lands in Dedham have been in their possession. Various members of the family have held public office in that town and always for many successive years. Nathaniel the first, in 1643, married Hannah Dwight, of that place. Her family was then as now of much repute. The old church records of Dedham make special mention of a Captain Timothy Dwight as "a promoter of the true interests of the church and town." His son Timothy was for many years the honored president of Yale College, and another Timothy Dwight, his great-grandson, holds the same high office in Yale University and is loved and honored as his grandfather was before him.

A son of Nathaniel and Hannah Dwight Whiting was Samuel, who married and lived in Dedham. His oldest son was David, who also married there, but soon after, in 1733 or 1734, came to this town. He purchased a farm with considerable woodland, which remained until recently in the possession of the family. David the first, of this town, married Mary Fuller. Their second son, named David, was born here February 22, 1735. He married Hannah, daughter of Moses and Mary Wallcott, of this town, and they had seven children. Of these Lemuel was fifth child and fourth son. He was born December 12, 1773. On July 2, 1811, he married Nancy, the daughter of Oliver and Polly Daggett Blackinton. Captain Lemuel Whiting "was a farmer, and an industrious, hard-working man." He paid particular attention to his cattle and took great pride in their fine appearance and superior qualities. He kept quite a number of oxen for the outside work in which he engaged, that of moving buildings. He died September 30, 1823. His

wife survived him nearly half a century and died in October, 1898. They had five children, two sons and three daughters, of whom the subject of the following sketch is the only survivor.

WILLIAM DEAN WHITING was born December 25, 1815. He was the third child, but oldest son, in his family. His father died when he was not quite eight years old, and the mother was left with the entire charge of her family of small children and with very limited means. Like many a New England mother in similar circumstances, she accepted the situation bravely and succeeded in bringing them up well. William was obliged to begin supporting himself at a very early age, and when only eight years old he worked for his uncle, Artemus Stanley. For his board he did the numberless "chore" Yankee boys on farms were then expected to do. These tasks were by no means small or easy, and boys were far more useful than they had the credit of being. He was with his uncle for a year, then he worked for a Mr. Whittemore, a farmer, for two years in the same way. Then he went home and for two years more worked by the day when he could find work to do, his wages being twenty-five cents a day. At the age of fourteen he was apprenticed to Draper & Felt "to learn their trade, and for six years he steadily applied himself to thoroughly master it. Mr. Felt, his uncle by marriage, pleased with his attention to their interests, took especial pains with him, and he became very proficient in all departments." Having learned his trade properly, the firm gave him the position of journeyman. At the end of a year "dull times came on, and work was scarce," so he sought employment elsewhere and worked for R. & W. Robinson for a while and later for Draper & Blackinton, but the former firm "chasing gilt buttons" and for the latter "chasing gilt jewelry."

He had already at the age of twenty-two gained "such a reputation for skill, steadiness, and reliability," that Mr. H. M. Richards offered him the position of foreman in his shop, the first where jewelry was manufactured in East Attleborough. Soon after this Mr. Richards took his business to Thomfield, and Mr. Whiting took charge of running the machinery and setting it up in his new location and remained there as superintendent. He retained this position two years with Mr. Richards and his successor, Mr. Garrett, and then he began business in a small way on his own account, making small watch and clocks. This was a time of extreme financial depression, little work was done, and that little was poorly paid, so after a few months of business for himself Mr. Whiting decided to go to St. Louis and try to improve his fortune in the West. Just at this juncture, however, he received a proposition from an old acquaintance, Albert C. Felt, to return to this town and enter into partnership with him in the manufacture of jewelry, Mr. John Felt of Draper & Felt, having promised to become the financial security of the proposed firm.

So far Mr. Whiting had not been successful in the mere making of money,

“but the value of faithful working and systematic economy had been so strongly impressed upon his nature as to affect his whole subsequent life.” He relinquished his Western plan “after careful thought and mature deliberation” and accepted Mr. Tift’s proposition, and this was without doubt the turning-point in his life. In 1840, and in this way, the famous firm of Tift & Whiting was formed, with these two ambitious and “honest young men” as partners. They had “a joint cash capital of five hundred dollars,” a small foundation, but by diligence, caution, and good management they built upon it a noble structure of well-secured success. At the very beginning only two workmen were employed, but this number was soon increased, and Mr. Whiting superintended the work in the shop. At first Mr. John Tift sold the firm’s goods, but later Mr. A. C. Tift undertook the charge of the sales in New York, and Mr. Whiting assumed those in New England. They conducted their business strictly on cash principles and would not run in debt. They received financial aid from Mr. Tift only once. Upon one occasion he had a note for one hundred and fifty dollars discounted at the Wrentham bank, and the firm promptly paid it when it fell due. The business increased rapidly, and a new building was needed, and before long another and a larger one. This last one was a portion of the Whiting Manufacturing Company’s building, the erection of which was personally superintended by Mr. Whiting himself. It is on the site of the old Beaver Dam cotton mill, which site with its privilege this firm had purchased.

The firm continued in its new building unchanged, but with constantly increasing business until January 1, 1853, when Mr. Tift, “satisfied with the fortune he had amassed,” retired, and Mr. Whiting bought his interest. He continued in his own name, and later as W. D. Whiting & Co., with unabated success, and the final result was the establishment of the Whiting Manufacturing Company, “one of the largest in the country,” and jewelry was relinquished, silver becoming its only article of production. In 1875 the company’s works were burned and it was decided to remove the manufactory to New York City. Mr. Whiting took up his residence there for a time in order to attend personally to the resetting of the machinery in the new shop and to superintend its operation. He remained five years and then returned to North Attleborough.

With this exception “Mr. Whiting has all his life resided in his native town, and, known of all men, is universally esteemed for his sterling worth, honesty of dealing, integrity, modesty, and unostentation.” He began at the bottom, “he has stood on every round of Fortune’s ladder, and in his old age he can enjoy the wealth he has accumulated, and looking back, he can say with pride that not one single dollar has been acquired unjustly. He is one of the best types of a self-made man; has started many ‘boys’ on the same road he has trod, first, by taking them as apprentices; secondly, by his kind and fatherly advice giving them more valuable aid than that of money;

and today many of them had a loyal friendship for the kind old friend whom they revered almost as a father. His success is the result of steady industry, careful economy, business thrift and enterprise reaching over a long period of years, coupled with a determination to give honest value to whatever he made. He has never had time to meddle either with politics or speculation, and has steadily refused all public positions. He is a Republican by political belief.

December 17, 1849, he was married to Lucy Damon, daughter of Pitt and Lucy Damon Butterfield, of Dedham. They have had four children: William Osborne, the oldest, was drowned at four weeks of age. The remaining three are Frank Mortimer, Josephine S., and Florence R. Whiting.¹

FRANK M. WHITING was born April 21, 1849. He was educated at the Norwich Military Institute, in Northfield, Vt., where he graduated in 1868. On returning home he worked in his father's manufactory for about a year and then became an assistant in the office, first here, and later in New York at the office there. Still later he became traveling salesman for the then firm and acted in that capacity for a number of years. In 1878 he and two other gentlemen formed a partnership as jewelry manufacturers in this town, and continued together for two years. At the end of that time Mr. Whiting the eldest bought the interests of Messrs. Hollbrook and Alden, the sons partners, and formed a new firm under the name it bears at present, Frank M. Whiting & Co. North Attleborough has advanced since he is still actively engaged in the concerns of this firm, for he superintends its manufactory while Mr. Frank Whiting attends to the interests of the business in traveling and selling the goods.

June 21, 1881, Mr. Frank Whiting was married to Florence L., a daughter of Edwin and Dorena Donne Hancock, of Wrentham. They have one daughter, Marion D. Whiting. Their residence is with Mr. William D. Whiting in the house he has occupied for many years.²

WHITNEY

FELIX G. WHITNEY, one of the town's prominent citizens and one closely identified with the growth and prosperity of North Attleborough, was born in that village December 9, 1818. His parents were then residing in what is called the "Guild house," which now stands on the corner of High and Washington streets. The family numbered six children. The sons were James G., who became a physician and practiced his profession in Pawtucket; George B., who died in 1851; and Felix G. The daughters were Harriet, Mrs. Samuel Eric Stanley; Maria, who married William Carter, of Rock

¹ Mr. Whiting, when in North Attleborough, was called Mr. Whiting & Sons, and was known as such.

² Mr. Whiting & Co. was incorporated in 1884.

Island, Ill.; and Emily, who was the first wife of Oliver Stanley. Of these only Mrs. Carter survives.

Felix attended the public schools of his native village and subsequently the then famous Day's Academy at Wrentham. His school course was, however, short, for when he was only about fifteen he left home and entered a wholesale grocery store on Bromfield Street, Boston, with the intention of in time pursuing that business. He progressed rapidly in mastering its details, but his career in that direction ended suddenly and rather peculiarly. He had a friend who was about to sail on a long voyage and he went one evening to the wharf "to see him off." This occasioned a somewhat tardy return to his home, which, according to the then prevailing custom, was in his employer's house. To be out late was a grave offence in the eyes of the old gentleman and he therefore, refusing to listen to any reasonable explanations, recommended that his clerk should report himself to his parents. The "spirited apprentice," however, took the liberty of thinking differently upon this matter and then and there came to his own decision. He immediately put his trunk upon a wheelbarrow and started with it for the wharf and thence "shipped before the mast."

"For ten years Mr. Whitney followed the sea. He went on several long voyages and experienced his share of the vicissitudes of a sailor's life. On one hapless Wednesday his ship was burned to the water's edge, and he was picked up next day by a vessel which was itself wrecked the following Saturday. Mr. Whitney in his second shipwreck made safe landing on an island, and the first vessel that touched refused him passage, because his story of two shipwrecks in four days was too improbable even for ears accustomed to the varied fact and fiction of the sea. He succeeded better the next time, and after a rough passage, during which the ship came near going ashore on Cape Hatteras, he arrived safely in Boston." A number of his voyages were made in company with Captain Abraham Hayward, father of the late Charles E. Hayward, of this town. This, his second attempted career, ended as unexpectedly as the first. He had shipped upon one occasion as first mate under a certain Captain Chace. The voyage was to be a long one, and while awaiting the summons of the captain, when the preparations should be completed, he came to his home in North Attleborough for a visit. Days passed on and the expected letter did not arrive. Finally it was ascertained that it had been detained for ten days in the East Attleborough postoffice, but meanwhile the ship had had to sail without him. This experience and the earnest entreaties of friends led him to decide to give up the life of a sailor.

Among his first enterprises in town was the opening of Orne Street, so named for his mother. This was the first street opened off North Attleborough's main thoroughfare — Washington Street — and his neighbors united in discouraging the project. He worked for a time as a carpenter in the

employ of his brother George and later in jewelry for H. M. Richards, and finally in 1842 he decided to venture in the second occupation for himself. He built his first shop on Orme Street, the building now occupied as a carriage shop by John Stanley & Son. His first associate was E. W. Davenport under the name of Whitney & Davenport. During the following eight years the firm and name underwent several changes, as partners entered or retired. It was Whitney, Davenport & Dunster; again Whitney, Davenport & Co.; and in 1857 became Whitney & Rice, which firm carried on its business in "The Company's Shop." In 1871, on the withdrawal of Mr. Rice, the name became E. G. Whitney & Co. and remained unchanged for fifteen years. In 1870 this firm was burned out at the Ira Richards factory. Six years later, in 1876, Mr. Whitney built a large brick shop on Chestnut Street, and this in turn was burned in 1882. It was immediately rebuilt, and eight months after the fire occurred was occupied, and is the same building in which the firm is now established. In 1886 Mr. Whitney sold the business to his two sons, George B. and E. F. Whitney, who compose the firm and retain the old name unchanged. [1893. Not in existence.]

In 1848 he married Catherine J. Briggs, daughter of Rufus and sister of William Briggs, of Attleborough, and of Mrs. Walter Ballou, of North Attleborough. They had six sons, only two of whom, those above mentioned, lived to maturity.

The *character* in its ordinary sense. "In his business as a jeweler, Mr. Whitney was distinguished by AM-ability, scrupulousness in methods, and his frequent kindness. He was one of the early members of the First Free Church, and opened an office in London street after closing his own retail shop, 1874 (very early, 1880). He crossed the common-law line in the interests of his own support fund, and on his last year in 1886 established interest free some London and others he had but his shop forty years before." He was deeply interested in the welfare of our Fellow-men, and was himself a model member of that organization. He was one of the first members of A. A. F. Lodge, and he took like those lodges in one night, just previous to that mentioned long enough again when he did not come. He had not the means of one house, and that was situated almost directly for many years. He was one of the leading members of the present old F. M. Lodge, and he was as true a supporter as it is possible, the existence of the organization in town, through the AM-ability as true as those of its members. He had at one time associated with B. F. Lodge of F. and A. M., but retired from it, because his domestic attachments were for the welfare of our Fellow-men, and he preferred to take no other. He had good distinct ideas, and never let many have a good opinion. He was largely instrumental in founding the public library of his native town, and all progressive work found in him a liberal supporter. He was at one time a director of the North Attleborough National Bank and of the Attleborough Branch Railroad. In giving his views prominent, and of course of what things he was at one time and problem it is not necessary to mention that our town representatives wanted to send him as one of the representatives of the First Free Church in 1884.

The *lasting state* of Mr. Whitney in the business of Jewels was a long time which Mr. Whitney would surely remember, and he did not ever being one of it. His death occurred November 17, 1893, after a long and painful illness. His funeral was conducted by the Rev. W. F. Parker and he was buried with the honor and the magnificence of our Fellow-men. No other information of his life and character can be given than that mentioned in the above outline of one who in his final days said: "He goes to his rest as one that was faithful to the triple links of Friendship, Love, and Truth."

WILMARTH.

DANIEL WILMARTH was born December 7, 1799, on what is called "the Lincoln place" in Rehoboth. He came to this town when he was quite a young man. His great-grandfather's name was Jonathan, his grandfather's Moses. The family was numerous in Rehoboth and several of the name came from there to this town, the first as early as 1708. Previous to his settlement here Mr. Wilmarth was for several years in the employ of the American Screw Company. His first wife was Patta Claflin, the daughter of Noah Claflin, of this town. He was familiarly known to everybody as "Squire Claflin." He and his father before him were "farmers and bootmakers." They were descendants of John Antipas Claflin, the first of the name in town, who came as early as 1717 from Sudbury, Mass. Squire Claflin was an intelligent and well-read man. His judgment upon the affairs of men was excellent and he was highly respected by all in the community. Harvey Claflin, a much loved deacon in the Second Congregational Church for many years, was his son. Deacon Claflin was, like his father, much respected by everybody. He was one of the truest, most consistent Christian men the town has ever known. He was a farmer and for many years occupied the place now known as the "Wilcox place." He frequently and for long periods held important offices in both the church and the town and was wise and careful in the performance of all his duties. He was also one of the town's representatives in the Legislature. He finally removed to Cleveland, Ohio, where his two sons, Harvey and Henry, had been residing for some years, and he died there at the residence of the former.

Mr. Wilmarth after his marriage lived at the old Claflin homestead on the "east road" from East to North Attleborough, and it finally came into his possession and remained his home for very many years. He was a man of considerable independence of character. He thought much and formed decided and fixed opinions, but he was always courteous to others and tolerant of their views. His nature was of the most kindly; he was a good neighbor and a thoughtful friend and he was often made an adviser and confidant by those who were in perplexity or trouble. He was greatly interested in music and during many years rendered valuable assistance to the choir of the Second Church, not only with his voice but liberally with his purse as well. He finally sold his farm and removed to the village of East Attleborough, where he passed the remainder of his life. A number of years since he married Mrs. Susan Mann, widow of Howard Mann, of Wrentham.

His old age was a remarkably vigorous one, both physically and mentally, until the death of his only son occurred. From that time his strong hold upon life gradually weakened. It was his ever recurring and pathetically expressed wish that the son's life might have been spared and the father's taken. During the summer of 1886 he sustained a severe shock of paralysis. He rallied extraordinarily for so old a man and lived for a year; but he failed

continually. He gradually and soon his friendly visits to his neighbors ceased, his pleasant voice was no longer heard, and his familiar form was missed from the village streets. He died July 27, 1887, having lived eighty-seven years, seven months, and twenty days.

WILLIAM DANIEL WILMARTH, the only son of Daniel and Patta Wilmarth, was born July 30, 1807. His boyhood and youth were spent at home, and it was not until he was twenty-seven years of age that he entered upon a business life. He inherited from his father musical tastes and ability and during his entire life he devoted a great deal of time to their cultivation, and not only in himself but in others. He aimed to create the standard of music in his community, and many in it can doubtless attribute to his suggestions and example their first real enjoyment and appreciation of that art. When a boy of about seventeen Mr. Wilmarth commenced to play the organ in church, and he soon in addition took charge of the choir. For quite twenty years he had the entire charge of the music in the Second Church, and he seemed neither time nor money to make this appropriate and worthy a church of its size and influence. How many difficulties he met and overcame and how much he really did will never probably be fully known, for Mr. Wilmarth never published his own deeds; he did not work for self-aggrandizement but for the love of music itself. Good church music had been the rule so long under his management that people had learned to expect it as a matter almost of course and did not realize the "eternal vigilance" required to preserve it, but his task began to be better understood, and his generous measures appreciated to some degree as they deserved, when he relinquished his position and it fell to other hands to carry on the work.

On October 15, 1861, Mr. Wilmarth became associated as a business partner with Dr. J. R. Bronson, who had then recently purchased a coffin-trimming business in North Attleborough. This firm soon removed to a small shop, *nearly* the site of the present one on County Street, East Attleborough. Four years later he bought the doctor's interest and continued alone until his death. Mr. Wilmarth became one of the most active of the men of the East village, after he took up his residence there, in all matters of public improvement. He was a prime mover and an efficient worker in commencing the water works there. That improvement was greatly needed and has long ceased to be regarded as a luxury, either public or private. He was active in obtaining improvements in the fire department, in having the streets properly curbed and lighted, and in advancing all matters of public health and comfort. He was a trustee of the Richardson School Fund and liberal in all educational matters in the community.

He died March 7, 1881, his life cut off in the prime and mid when many years of great usefulness were opening out before him. His death left a wide gap in the ranks of our useful citizens, which cannot soon be filled.

He was in truth and in earnest a public-spirited man. He was unusually modest and unassuming: he never wished public advancement or office for himself, but pushed others forward. He was a man of indomitable energy and determination, but in so quiet a way that those traits scarcely made themselves apparent. He had a sound, sagacious mind, was clear and judicious in his judgment, a man of scrupulous rectitude in his dealings, and he exercised a "powerful influence on the side of right and public good." In writing of him just after his death one said: "Mr. Wilmarth was a genuinely honest man. He did business on the square. He took no stock in the complaint that the times are such as to render it impossible for a man to do business honestly, and not bankrupt himself. As a business man he clung to the principles which build patiently, steadily, and surely. Among these principles was that which led him to cherish the welfare of others. He was generous to his employees. He was never spoken ill of by a man who had worked for him. To young men struggling to get on he always stood ready to lend a helping hand. 'I have lost my best friend,' said a member of a young firm to me the other day, 'from no man did we get so much encouragement and help.' Said another gentleman of large business experience, 'Mr. Wilmarth was one of the ablest business men with whom I was ever acquainted.' 'No man,' said still another, 'could die here who would be more missed.'"

Among the resolutions passed after his death by the trustees of the Richardson School Fund was the following: —

Resolved, — That the community in which he lived has lost a neighbor just and conscientious in all his dealings with others — one who was active in promoting the interest and prosperity of this village, and especially interested in sustaining its various institutions; and thus we mourn the departure of an honorable and worthy citizen, one who will be long remembered in the business circles of this town."

Mr. Wilmarth merited such tributes as these, for he fulfilled well the high duties of true manhood and loyal citizenship.

On May 5, 1857, he married S. Josephine Mann, daughter of Howard and Susan Ide Mann, of Wrentham. She and several children survive him. Of these one son is connected with his father's business, and another, the eldest, has for several years been pursuing musical studies in Europe.¹

The chief facts in quite a number of the sketches contained in this and the chapter next preceeding are taken from the History of Bristol County, which appeared a few years since. In many instances I have made exact quotations; in many others I have used ideas and suggestions found there, and I am glad to again acknowledge my indebtedness to that publication. In these same sketches I have made such changes as time and my purpose dictated, and have added to them such facts, etc., as were within my own knowledge or were furnished me from various sources. I have largely increased the number of persons noticed in the history above

¹ For a number of years none of the family had any personal connection with the management of the business, but recently two of the sons, — the eldest and the youngest, — William H. and Henry D., have assumed its control. This change resulted from the death of Mrs. Wilmarth — which occurred in October, 1894, — and the withdrawal of the then manager and only partner outside the family. The former now resides in town, the latter has recently returned to town.

CHAPTER XVIII.

GENEALOGY, STATISTICS, REPRESENTATIVES, TOWN OFFICERS, GRADUATES
OF COLLEGES, ETC.

THE following account of the earliest settlers in town is almost exactly as it was prepared for the first edition of this work. Whether it was the author's intention to enlarge it is not known; but no notes were found sufficient to make any material changes, though some additions have been made.

A brief genealogy of some of the earliest settlers in the town is annexed, which is intended to include, so far as I have been able to ascertain, the names of those who came into the town previous to 1730, with the names of their children of the first generation (space not permitting me to extend it any farther) and also the previous place of their settlement, when known. This will not contain the names of many who have *all* either removed from town or whose families have become extinct. These sketches must necessarily be imperfect from the defects in the records and the general neglect of most families to preserve any knowledge of their remote ancestry. The discovery of many of these facts connected with the history of our ancestors has been the result of fortunate accident.

Many of the first proprietors (who belonged to Rehoboth) or their descendants became the occupants of the lands which they had purchased; but in process of time the cheapness of the land invited many emigrants from various parts of the colonies of Massachusetts and Plymouth, who either became shareholders or purchased rights.¹

ALLEN, NEHEMIAH, son of Isaac Allen, 1st, of Rehoboth, married Anne Wilmarth, daughter of Thomas Wilmarth, 2d, of that town; came to Attleborough about 1740. He had five children; namely, Isaac, John, Nehemiah, Daniel, Anne, who were born between the years 1711 and 1726.

ATWELL, RICHARD, married Sarah Bolcom, daughter of Alexander Bolcom; had five children by her: Sarah, Amos, Anne, Richard, Ichabod, 1728-1739. His second wife was Mary Lawrence, by whom he had one son, William, born 1741.

BARROWS, BENJAMIN, ancestor of all that name in town. He came here about 1708 from Rehoboth, where he had resided for a short time. His wife was Lydia Bucklin, daughter of Joseph Bucklin, one of the early settlers of that town. He had nine² children: John, born in Rehoboth, 1707; Deborah, born 1711; Joseph, 1713; Nehemiah, 1715; Benjamin, March, 1717-18; Elijah, March, 1719-20; Lydia, 1722; Ichabod, 1724. He died January 5, 1754. From him was descended Dr. Ira Barrows, a graduate of Boston University in 1824 and a practising physician in Providence, R. I.

BLACKINTON, PENTICOST, the ancestor of all the Blackintons in town, came to Attleborough previous to 1702 from Marblehead. His wife's name was Mary. He had at least four children: Penticost; Mary, who married Ebenezer Daggett, 1st, of this town; Benjamin, who came with him; and Hepzibath, who was born here December, 1702. Besides these there were John and Penelope, twins, born in 1705 and both died in 1706. Penticost, 1st, died September 24, 1715. His son Penticost married Rebecca Fliggett and had eight children—Penticost, born 1716; Rebecca, born 1717; George, born 1720; Anne, born 1722; Mary, born 1724; John, born 1727; Othniel, born 1729; Peter, born 1731.

¹ Usually newcomers, if they could not purchase a *share* in the undivided lands, bought a *right* to lay out a definite number of acres in a division already granted.

² The names of eight only are given. Whether the number is wrong or the name of the other not recorded the Editor does not know.

Elizabeth (born in 1750) died from Rheumatism, age 47, William, 17, 23, 29, 35, 41, 47, 53, 59, 65, 71, 77, 83, 89, 95, 101, 107, 113, 119, 125, 131, 137, 143, 149, 155, 161, 167, 173, 179, 185, 191, 197, 203, 209, 215, 221, 227, 233, 239, 245, 251, 257, 263, 269, 275, 281, 287, 293, 299, 305, 311, 317, 323, 329, 335, 341, 347, 353, 359, 365, 371, 377, 383, 389, 395, 401, 407, 413, 419, 425, 431, 437, 443, 449, 455, 461, 467, 473, 479, 485, 491, 497, 503, 509, 515, 521, 527, 533, 539, 545, 551, 557, 563, 569, 575, 581, 587, 593, 599, 605, 611, 617, 623, 629, 635, 641, 647, 653, 659, 665, 671, 677, 683, 689, 695, 701, 707, 713, 719, 725, 731, 737, 743, 749, 755, 761, 767, 773, 779, 785, 791, 797, 803, 809, 815, 821, 827, 833, 839, 845, 851, 857, 863, 869, 875, 881, 887, 893, 899, 905, 911, 917, 923, 929, 935, 941, 947, 953, 959, 965, 971, 977, 983, 989, 995, 1001, 1007, 1013, 1019, 1025, 1031, 1037, 1043, 1049, 1055, 1061, 1067, 1073, 1079, 1085, 1091, 1097, 1103, 1109, 1115, 1121, 1127, 1133, 1139, 1145, 1151, 1157, 1163, 1169, 1175, 1181, 1187, 1193, 1199, 1205, 1211, 1217, 1223, 1229, 1235, 1241, 1247, 1253, 1259, 1265, 1271, 1277, 1283, 1289, 1295, 1301, 1307, 1313, 1319, 1325, 1331, 1337, 1343, 1349, 1355, 1361, 1367, 1373, 1379, 1385, 1391, 1397, 1403, 1409, 1415, 1421, 1427, 1433, 1439, 1445, 1451, 1457, 1463, 1469, 1475, 1481, 1487, 1493, 1499, 1505, 1511, 1517, 1523, 1529, 1535, 1541, 1547, 1553, 1559, 1565, 1571, 1577, 1583, 1589, 1595, 1601, 1607, 1613, 1619, 1625, 1631, 1637, 1643, 1649, 1655, 1661, 1667, 1673, 1679, 1685, 1691, 1697, 1703, 1709, 1715, 1721, 1727, 1733, 1739, 1745, 1751, 1757, 1763, 1769, 1775, 1781, 1787, 1793, 1799, 1805, 1811, 1817, 1823, 1829, 1835, 1841, 1847, 1853, 1859, 1865, 1871, 1877, 1883, 1889, 1895, 1901, 1907, 1913, 1919, 1925, 1931, 1937, 1943, 1949, 1955, 1961, 1967, 1973, 1979, 1985, 1991, 1997, 2003, 2009, 2015, 2021, 2027, 2033, 2039, 2045, 2051, 2057, 2063, 2069, 2075, 2081, 2087, 2093, 2099, 2105, 2111, 2117, 2123, 2129, 2135, 2141, 2147, 2153, 2159, 2165, 2171, 2177, 2183, 2189, 2195, 2201, 2207, 2213, 2219, 2225, 2231, 2237, 2243, 2249, 2255, 2261, 2267, 2273, 2279, 2285, 2291, 2297, 2303, 2309, 2315, 2321, 2327, 2333, 2339, 2345, 2351, 2357, 2363, 2369, 2375, 2381, 2387, 2393, 2399, 2405, 2411, 2417, 2423, 2429, 2435, 2441, 2447, 2453, 2459, 2465, 2471, 2477, 2483, 2489, 2495, 2501, 2507, 2513, 2519, 2525, 2531, 2537, 2543, 2549, 2555, 2561, 2567, 2573, 2579, 2585, 2591, 2597, 2603, 2609, 2615, 2621, 2627, 2633, 2639, 2645, 2651, 2657, 2663, 2669, 2675, 2681, 2687, 2693, 2699, 2705, 2711, 2717, 2723, 2729, 2735, 2741, 2747, 2753, 2759, 2765, 2771, 2777, 2783, 2789, 2795, 2801, 2807, 2813, 2819, 2825, 2831, 2837, 2843, 2849, 2855, 2861, 2867, 2873, 2879, 2885, 2891, 2897, 2903, 2909, 2915, 2921, 2927, 2933, 2939, 2945, 2951, 2957, 2963, 2969, 2975, 2981, 2987, 2993, 2999, 3005, 3011, 3017, 3023, 3029, 3035, 3041, 3047, 3053, 3059, 3065, 3071, 3077, 3083, 3089, 3095, 3101, 3107, 3113, 3119, 3125, 3131, 3137, 3143, 3149, 3155, 3161, 3167, 3173, 3179, 3185, 3191, 3197, 3203, 3209, 3215, 3221, 3227, 3233, 3239, 3245, 3251, 3257, 3263, 3269, 3275, 3281, 3287, 3293, 3299, 3305, 3311, 3317, 3323, 3329, 3335, 3341, 3347, 3353, 3359, 3365, 3371, 3377, 3383, 3389, 3395, 3401, 3407, 3413, 3419, 3425, 3431, 3437, 3443, 3449, 3455, 3461, 3467, 3473, 3479, 3485, 3491, 3497, 3503, 3509, 3515, 3521, 3527, 3533, 3539, 3545, 3551, 3557, 3563, 3569, 3575, 3581, 3587, 3593, 3599, 3605, 3611, 3617, 3623, 3629, 3635, 3641, 3647, 3653, 3659, 3665, 3671, 3677, 3683, 3689, 3695, 3701, 3707, 3713, 3719, 3725, 3731, 3737, 3743, 3749, 3755, 3761, 3767, 3773, 3779, 3785, 3791, 3797, 3803, 3809, 3815, 3821, 3827, 3833, 3839, 3845, 3851, 3857, 3863, 3869, 3875, 3881, 3887, 3893, 3899, 3905, 3911, 3917, 3923, 3929, 3935, 3941, 3947, 3953, 3959, 3965, 3971, 3977, 3983, 3989, 3995, 4001, 4007, 4013, 4019, 4025, 4031, 4037, 4043, 4049, 4055, 4061, 4067, 4073, 4079, 4085, 4091, 4097, 4103, 4109, 4115, 4121, 4127, 4133, 4139, 4145, 4151, 4157, 4163, 4169, 4175, 4181, 4187, 4193, 4199, 4205, 4211, 4217, 4223, 4229, 4235, 4241, 4247, 4253, 4259, 4265, 4271, 4277, 4283, 4289, 4295, 4301, 4307, 4313, 4319, 4325, 4331, 4337, 4343, 4349, 4355, 4361, 4367, 4373, 4379, 4385, 4391, 4397, 4403, 4409, 4415, 4421, 4427, 4433, 4439, 4445, 4451, 4457, 4463, 4469, 4475, 4481, 4487, 4493, 4499, 4505, 4511, 4517, 4523, 4529, 4535, 4541, 4547, 4553, 4559, 4565, 4571, 4577, 4583, 4589, 4595, 4601, 4607, 4613, 4619, 4625, 4631, 4637, 4643, 4649, 4655, 4661, 4667, 4673, 4679, 4685, 4691, 4697, 4703, 4709, 4715, 4721, 4727, 4733, 4739, 4745, 4751, 4757, 4763, 4769, 4775, 4781, 4787, 4793, 4799, 4805, 4811, 4817, 4823, 4829, 4835, 4841, 4847, 4853, 4859, 4865, 4871, 4877, 4883, 4889, 4895, 4901, 4907, 4913, 4919, 4925, 4931, 4937, 4943, 4949, 4955, 4961, 4967, 4973, 4979, 4985, 4991, 4997, 5003, 5009, 5015, 5021, 5027, 5033, 5039, 5045, 5051, 5057, 5063, 5069, 5075, 5081, 5087, 5093, 5099, 5105, 5111, 5117, 5123, 5129, 5135, 5141, 5147, 5153, 5159, 5165, 5171, 5177, 5183, 5189, 5195, 5201, 5207, 5213, 5219, 5225, 5231, 5237, 5243, 5249, 5255, 5261, 5267, 5273, 5279, 5285, 5291, 5297, 5303, 5309, 5315, 5321, 5327, 5333, 5339, 5345, 5351, 5357, 5363, 5369, 5375, 5381, 5387, 5393, 5399, 5405, 5411, 5417, 5423, 5429, 5435, 5441, 5447, 5453, 5459, 5465, 5471, 5477, 5483, 5489, 5495, 5501, 5507, 5513, 5519, 5525, 5531, 5537, 5543, 5549, 5555, 5561, 5567, 5573, 5579, 5585, 5591, 5597, 5603, 5609, 5615, 5621, 5627, 5633, 5639, 5645, 5651, 5657, 5663, 5669, 5675, 5681, 5687, 5693, 5699, 5705, 5711, 5717, 5723, 5729, 5735, 5741, 5747, 5753, 5759, 5765, 5771, 5777, 5783, 5789, 5795, 5801, 5807, 5813, 5819, 5825, 5831, 5837, 5843, 5849, 5855, 5861, 5867, 5873, 5879, 5885, 5891, 5897, 5903, 5909, 5915, 5921, 5927, 5933, 5939, 5945, 5951, 5957, 5963, 5969, 5975, 5981, 5987, 5993, 5999, 6005, 6011, 6017, 6023, 6029, 6035, 6041, 6047, 6053, 6059, 6065, 6071, 6077, 6083, 6089, 6095, 6101, 6107, 6113, 6119, 6125, 6131, 6137, 6143, 6149, 6155, 6161, 6167, 6173, 6179, 6185, 6191, 6197, 6203, 6209, 6215, 6221, 6227, 6233, 6239, 6245, 6251, 6257, 6263, 6269, 6275, 6281, 6287, 6293, 6299, 6305, 6311, 6317, 6323, 6329, 6335, 6341, 6347, 6353, 6359, 6365, 6371, 6377, 6383, 6389, 6395, 6401, 6407, 6413, 6419, 6425, 6431, 6437, 6443, 6449, 6455, 6461, 6467, 6473, 6479, 6485, 6491, 6497, 6503, 6509, 6515, 6521, 6527, 6533, 6539, 6545, 6551, 6557, 6563, 6569, 6575, 6581, 6587, 6593, 6599, 6605, 6611, 6617, 6623, 6629, 6635, 6641, 6647, 6653, 6659, 6665, 6671, 6677, 6683, 6689, 6695, 6701, 6707, 6713, 6719, 6725, 6731, 6737, 6743, 6749, 6755, 6761, 6767, 6773, 6779, 6785, 6791, 6797, 6803, 6809, 6815, 6821, 6827, 6833, 6839, 6845, 6851, 6857, 6863, 6869, 6875, 6881, 6887, 6893, 6899, 6905, 6911, 6917, 6923, 6929, 6935, 6941, 6947, 6953, 6959, 6965, 6971, 6977, 6983, 6989, 6995, 7001, 7007, 7013, 7019, 7025, 7031, 7037, 7043, 7049, 7055, 7061, 7067, 7073, 7079, 7085, 7091, 7097, 7103, 7109, 7115, 7121, 7127, 7133, 7139, 7145, 7151, 7157, 7163, 7169, 7175, 7181, 7187, 7193, 7199, 7205, 7211, 7217, 7223, 7229, 7235, 7241, 7247, 7253, 7259, 7265, 7271, 7277, 7283, 7289, 7295, 7301, 7307, 7313, 7319, 7325, 7331, 7337, 7343, 7349, 7355, 7361, 7367, 7373, 7379, 7385, 7391, 7397, 7403, 7409, 7415, 7421, 7427, 7433, 7439, 7445, 7451, 7457, 7463, 7469, 7475, 7481, 7487, 7493, 7499, 7505, 7511, 7517, 7523, 7529, 7535, 7541, 7547, 7553, 7559, 7565, 7571, 7577, 7583, 7589, 7595, 7601, 7607, 7613, 7619, 7625, 7631, 7637, 7643, 7649, 7655, 7661, 7667, 7673, 7679, 7685, 7691, 7697, 7703, 7709, 7715, 7721, 7727, 7733, 7739, 7745, 7751, 7757, 7763, 7769, 7775, 7781, 7787, 7793, 7799, 7805, 7811, 7817, 7823, 7829, 7835, 7841, 7847, 7853, 7859, 7865, 7871, 7877, 7883, 7889, 7895, 7901, 7907, 7913, 7919, 7925, 7931, 7937, 7943, 7949, 7955, 7961, 7967, 7973, 7979, 7985, 7991, 7997, 8003, 8009, 8015, 8021, 8027, 8033, 8039, 8045, 8051, 8057, 8063, 8069, 8075, 8081, 8087, 8093, 8099, 8105, 8111, 8117, 8123, 8129, 8135, 8141, 8147, 8153, 8159, 8165, 8171, 8177, 8183, 8189, 8195, 8201, 8207, 8213, 8219, 8225, 8231, 8237, 8243, 8249, 8255, 8261, 8267, 8273, 8279, 8285, 8291, 8297, 8303, 8309, 8315, 8321, 8327, 8333, 8339, 8345, 8351, 8357, 8363, 8369, 8375, 8381, 8387, 8393, 8399, 8405, 8411, 8417, 8423, 8429, 8435, 8441, 8447, 8453, 8459, 8465, 8471, 8477, 8483, 8489, 8495, 8501, 8507, 8513, 8519, 8525, 8531, 8537, 8543, 8549, 8555, 8561, 8567, 8573, 8579, 8585, 8591, 8597, 8603, 8609, 8615, 8621, 8627, 8633, 8639, 8645, 8651, 8657, 8663, 8669, 8675, 8681, 8687, 8693, 8699, 8705, 8711, 8717, 8723, 8729, 8735, 8741, 8747, 8753, 8759, 8765, 8771, 8777, 8783, 8789, 8795, 8801, 8807, 8813, 8819, 8825, 8831, 8837, 8843, 8849, 8855, 8861, 8867, 8873, 8879, 8885, 8891, 8897, 8903, 8909, 8915, 8921, 8927, 8933, 8939, 8945, 8951, 8957, 8963, 8969, 8975, 8981, 8987, 8993, 8999, 9005, 9011, 9017, 9023, 9029, 9035, 9041, 9047, 9053, 9059, 9065, 9071, 9077, 9083, 9089, 9095, 9101, 9107, 9113, 9119, 9125, 9131, 9137, 9143, 9149, 9155, 9161, 9167, 9173, 9179, 9185, 9191, 9197, 9203, 9209, 9215, 9221, 9227, 9233, 9239, 9245, 9251, 9257, 9263, 9269, 9275, 9281, 9287, 9293, 9299, 9305, 9311, 9317, 9323, 9329, 9335, 9341, 9347, 9353, 9359, 9365, 9371, 9377, 9383, 9389, 9395, 9401, 9407, 9413, 9419, 9425, 9431, 9437, 9443, 9449, 9455, 9461, 9467, 9473, 9479, 9485, 9491, 9497, 9503, 9509, 9515, 9521, 9527, 9533, 9539, 9545, 9551, 9557, 9563, 9569, 9575, 9581, 9587, 9593, 9599, 9605, 9611, 9617, 9623, 9629, 9635, 9641, 9647, 9653, 9659, 9665, 9671, 9677, 9683, 9689, 9695, 9701, 9707, 9713, 9719, 9725, 9731, 9737, 9743, 9749, 9755, 9761, 9767, 9773, 9779, 9785, 9791, 9797, 9803, 9809, 9815, 9821, 9827, 9833, 9839, 9845, 9851, 9857, 9863, 9869, 9875, 9881, 9887, 9893, 9899, 9905, 9911, 9917, 9923, 9929, 9935, 9941, 9947, 9953, 9959, 9965, 9971, 9977, 9983, 9989, 9995, 10001, 10007, 10013, 10019, 10025, 10031, 10037, 10043, 10049, 10055, 10061, 10067, 10073, 10079, 10085, 10091, 10097, 10103, 10109, 10115, 10121, 10127, 10133, 10139, 10145, 10151, 10157, 10163, 10169, 10175, 10181, 10187, 10193, 10199, 10205, 10211, 10217, 10223, 10229, 10235, 10241, 10247, 10253, 10259, 10265, 10271, 10277, 10283, 10289, 10295, 10301, 10307, 10313, 10319, 10325, 10331, 10337, 10343, 10349, 10355, 10361, 10367, 10373, 10379, 10385, 10391, 10397, 10403, 10409, 10415, 10421, 10427, 10433, 10439, 10445, 10451, 10457, 10463, 10469, 10475, 10481, 10487, 10493, 10499, 10505, 10511, 10517, 10523, 10529, 10535, 10541, 10547, 10553, 10559, 10565, 10571, 10577, 10583, 10589, 10595, 10601, 10607, 10613, 10619, 10625, 10631, 10637, 10643, 10649, 10655, 10661, 10667, 10673, 10679, 10685, 10691, 10697, 10703, 10709, 10715, 10721, 10727, 10733, 10739, 10745, 10751, 10757, 10763, 10769, 10775, 10781, 10787, 10793, 10799, 10805, 10811, 10817, 10823, 10829, 10835, 10841, 10847, 10853, 10859, 10865, 10871, 10877, 10883, 10889, 10895, 10901, 10907, 10913, 10919, 10925, 10931, 10937, 10943, 10949, 10955, 10961, 10967, 10973, 10979, 10985, 10991, 10997, 11003, 11009, 11015, 11021, 11027, 11033, 11039, 11045, 11051, 11057, 11063, 11069, 11075, 11081, 11087, 11093, 11099, 11105, 11111, 11117, 11123, 11129, 11135, 11141, 11147, 11153, 11159, 11165, 11171, 11177, 11183, 11189, 11195, 11201, 11207, 11213, 11219, 11225, 11231, 11237, 11243, 11249, 11255, 11261, 11267, 11273, 11279, 11285, 11291, 11297, 11303, 11309, 11315, 11321, 11327, 11333, 11339, 11345, 11351, 11357, 11363, 11369, 11375, 11381, 11387, 11393, 11399, 11405, 11411, 11417, 11423, 11429, 11435, 11441, 11447, 11453, 11459, 11465, 11471, 11477, 11483, 11489, 11495, 11501, 11507, 11513, 11519, 11525, 11531, 11537, 11543, 11549, 11555, 11561, 11567, 11573, 11579, 11585, 11591, 11597, 11603, 11609, 11615, 11621, 11627, 11633, 11639, 11645, 11651, 11657, 11663, 11669, 11675, 11681, 11687, 11693, 11699, 11705, 11711, 11717, 11723, 11729, 11735, 11741, 11747, 11753, 11759, 11765, 11771, 11777, 11783, 11789, 11795, 11801, 11807, 11813, 11819, 11825, 11831, 11837, 11843, 11849, 11855, 11861, 11867, 11873, 11879, 11885, 11891, 11897, 11903, 11909, 11915, 11921, 11927, 11933, 11939, 11945, 11951, 11957, 11963, 11969, 11975, 11981, 11987, 11993, 11999, 12005, 12011, 12017, 12023, 12029, 12035, 12041, 12047, 12053, 12059, 12065, 12071, 12077, 12083, 12089, 12095, 121

Carpenter was born in Rehoboth in 1707, and died in Attleboro where he lived, in 1764. He married Bethiah Lyon and both are buried in the old cemetery, Attleboro, old slate stones, under a fir tree, marking their graves."¹ He must be the Obediah above mentioned, who, the author says, came here early and was probably the son of Obediah, born in 1677. The Noah mentioned above must have been one of the ten sons of William, 3d, and he (his grandfather having died) was the William, Jr., who was "Clerk of the Propriety" from 1682 to 1703.

CLAFLIN (formerly McClafin²), ANTIPAS, came here from Sudbury, Mass. He had three children after his arrival in this town; namely, Hepzebeth, born November 17, 1717; Antipas and Ebenezer, twins, born February 8, 1720-21. His wife's name was Sarah. Other sons probably came with him — Noah, Phinebas, etc.

CUMMINGS (formerly Cummins or Comens), DAVID, came here very early from Woburn, this State. He settled in the southeast part of the town, on a farm still owned and occupied by descendants. He had either seven or nine children.

CUTTING, AARON, was the first and only one of this name who came here. His son Aaron, Jr., married Ruth Pratt, 1749. (She died July 26, 1753.) His second wife was Sarah Tucker, and by both of them he had nine children.

DAGGETT, JOHN, ancestor of all the Daggetts here and in Connecticut, came to Attleborough from Chilmark, Martha's Vineyard, about 1709,³ with his wife Sarah and nine children, four sons and five daughters; namely, Mayhew, Ebenezer, Thomas, Naphthali, — who was "slain by a tree," — Abigail, who married Ebenezer Guild, October 12, 1714, and died November 20, 1790, aged ninety-seven years; Jane, who married Caleb Hall, November 9, 1721. He removed to — Manor, N. J., and was living in 1771; Zilpha, who married Nathaniel Robinson, July 18, 1721; Patience, who married Noah Robinson, October 4, 1723, and died in 1793, and was buried in the old Falls cemetery; and Mary, who married John Titus, January 8, 1727-28 — all of Attleborough. Ebenezer, born August 29, 1690, married Mary Blackinton, November 9, 1721. She was daughter of Pentecost Blackinton, and was born in Marblehead, November 25, 1698. Mayhew married Joanna Biven, of Deerfield.⁴

By recent research I am able to trace this family still farther back, and give the result for the information of numerous descendants here and elsewhere.

John the first of Attleborough was the son of Thomas Daggett, Esq., of Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard, who married Hannah Mayhew, the oldest daughter of Governor Mayhew, and had brothers Thomas, Samuel, Joshua, Israil, and a sister Mercy. Thomas, the father of John the first of this town, was son of John Daggett the first, who came to this country in 1630 and was settled in Watertown in 1642, and probably removed to Martha's Vineyard with Governor Mayhew when he settled the island in 1644. John the first of Rehoboth was brother of Thomas, and son of John the first of Watertown. There is reason to believe that the last-

¹ See *Attleboro Advocate* for June 2, 1888. In another account published by a descendant residing in New York William, the ancestor, was born in Amesbury, Wiltshire, England, about 1604-5 and came to this country not far from 1635. He was mentioned in the "Initial Deed" of Roger Williams and his "twelve disciples," and this shows him to have been one of "The Thirteen Proprietors of Providence Plantations." He, it is said, as early as 1638 bought lands at Pawtucket and settled there with "several other families." He is said also to have been one of the founders of the Baptist Church in America and to have received baptism from Roger Williams himself. Tradition makes him a preacher in England and says he "fled to America, being compelled to go on shipboard at night to avoid his persecutors." He died September 7, 1685. He must be the William, Jr., who came with his father, wife, and four small children to this country and finally to "Seacunk." The accounts differ somewhat, but doubtless point to the same person, son of the real ancestor.

² Sometimes spelt Mecloblin, and in one place R. N. P. Rec. p. 49. Mack Clafin, — a proof of the variation which names undergo in the course of a few generations. Tradition says the family originated in Scotland.

³ According to a History of the Daggett Daggett Family he came between October 17, 1711, and December 24, 1712. — EDITOR.

⁴ This was probably not Deerfield, Mass., as the author formerly supposed, as for a hundred and fifty years after the settlement of that town the name is not known there. The name is not common at the date mentioned, and for that and other reasons it is conjectured that the Deerfield may have been a place of that name in England.

JOHN, third son, married Mehetable Robinson, May 14, 1719; had four children: Sarah, John, Benjamin, Amos — 1720 to 1729.

INGRAHAM, JOSEPH, BENJAMIN, JEREMIAH, ELLIAH, descendants of Benjamin and of Jarett (or Jaret), whose name is on the list of purchasers, come from Rehoboth. Joseph married Mary Shepardson. Jeremiah married Susanna Tucker, of Stoughton. Intentions published August 7, 1731.

ELLIAH married Sarah Ide; had eight children: Elijah, Jabez, Sarah and William, twins, Betty, Remember, Comfort, Jeremiah — 1734 to 1746.

MANCY, ALEXANDER,¹ came from Gloucester, Mass., with his family, about 1721, and soon purchased and settled on John Woodcock's farm, and continued the public house. He was "a soldier in Gallup's Company, for the sad expedition in 1690, of Phips against Quebec." His wife's name was Abigail. He died September 20, 1723. His children were Alexander, who died April 2, 1724; Joseph, Josiah, Abigail, who married Jacob Hascall, of Gloucester; Mary, who married William Ware, May 4, 1726; Esther, who married Nehemiah Ward, December 3, 1728; and Benjamin.

JOSIAH married Mary Everett, daughter of Joshua Everett; had eleven children. His second son, Levi, whose wife was Ruth, daughter of Jacob Newell, was the father of Jonathan, Milton, and Virgil, graduates of Brown University, eminent in literary and professional life. Levi, another son, who possessed superior talents, though not liberally educated, died at the South.

MARTIN, JOHN, ROBERT, and TIMOTHY came from Rehoboth. Timothy married Mary, daughter of John Fuller, then of Rehoboth, afterwards of Attleborough; had three children: Timothy, Sarah Abel.

Three of this name were admitted freemen of Massachusetts — Thomas Martin, 22d May, 1639; John and Robert, 13th May, 1640. John settled in Rehoboth.

MOORE, ALEXANDER, married Alice Chaffee; had eight children: Samuel, Comfort, Jane, Betsey, Esther, Alice, Kate, Hannah.

NEWELL, JACOB, came here from Roxbury or Dorchester about 1715, bringing with him his family of several sons — Jacob, Joseph, Ephraim, etc. Jason was born here December 12, 1717. His wife's name was Joyce. He settled near the first meetinghouse, and bought a part of Willett's farm, and, according to tradition, distributed it among his seven sons. In 1834 it still remained in seven divisions, and is still occupied by a descendant of Mr. Newell, of the same name. (1887.)

PECK, HEZEKIAH, son of Nicholas Peck, of Rehoboth, came to Attleborough about 1700 with his family. He married Deborah Cooper, of the former place; had seven children: Deborah, Judith, Hannah, Hezekiah, Rachel, born in Rehoboth; Petronella, Perthenah — 1687 to 1711.

Several other Pecks came here from Rehoboth; namely, John and Elisha, brothers of Hezekiah; Daniel and Ichabod, sons of Jathniel, who was the son of Joseph,² 1st, who came to Rehoboth from Hingham, Mass., and probably to that place from Hingham, England.

READ, DANIEL, came from Rehoboth about 1716, with five children, Beriah, Ichabod, Hannah, Abigail, Esther (Daniel died infant), 1707 to 1713. His first wife was Elizabeth Bos-

¹ It is said that a brother came with him to this country, and settled in one of the Southern States.

² Mr. Joseph Peck and Mr. Robert Peck were admitted freemen of Massachusetts thirteenth March, 1638-39. Robert was ordained teacher at Hingham, eighth November, 1638, and twenty-seventh October, 1641, returned to England with his family. Joseph's name appears on the Rehoboth records, April 9, 1645. On his way from Hingham the following accident befell him —

1645, 1. 25. "Another strange accident happened by fire about this time. One Mr. Peck and three others of Hingham, being about with others to remove to Sacoek, which was concluded by the Commissioners of the United Colonies to belong to Plymouth, riding thither, they sheltered themselves and their horses near Indian wigwam, which by some occasion took fire, and although they were all four in it, and labored to their utmost, &c.) burnt three of their horses to death, and all their goods to the value of 50 pounds."

One John Peck was in Rehoboth as early as twenty-ninth March, 1645. *Win. Jour.* 11, 216.

Nicholas, John, Joseph, Jr., are supposed to be sons of Mr. Joseph, who came with him to Rehoboth; if this supposition be true, then all of the name are descended from him.

of the first settlers of Rehoboth. He removed to Long Island with his family, with the exception of the oldest son, John, who remained in Rehoboth, and who subsequently came to this town, he being one of the proprietors of the North Purchase. His four sons, John, Jr., Silas, Samuel, and Joseph, settled here, and for several generations the family was quite numerous both here and in Rehoboth.

TYLER, EBENEZER, had nine children: Ebenezer, Elizabeth, Phebe, Catharine, Hannah (died), John, Hannah, William, Job, 1714 to 1731. Job settled in Ashford, Conn.

SAMUEL married Mary Capron, had eleven children: Mary (died), Samuel (died), Moses, Samuel, Mary, Nathan, Huldah, Habijah and Elizabeth. — twins. — Ebenezer, Benjamin (died).

JOHN married Nancy (Nanne) Thacher, daughter of Rev. Peter Thacher. His son John, Jr., removed to Harford, Penn., in 1794. His grandson, the son of John, Jr., is the Rev. William S. Tyler, Professor of Greek in Amherst College, a man of marked ability and extended learning, and having the reputation of being one of the best classical scholars of the age.

WILKINSON, JOHN, came here about 1700; married Rachel Fales. His children were eight in number: namely, John, Joseph, Rachel, Mary, Hepzibeth, Abigail, Sarah, Hannah, 1702 to 1723. He purchased Capt. Willett's share in the undivided lands, probably of his son Andrew Willett. He died 24th Jan. 1724-25.

John Wilkinson, Malden, died Dec. 1675. — *Far. Reg.*

WILMARTH, THOMAS, came to Attleborough about 1708, — married Deborah Peck — had seven children: Mary, Thomas, Deborah, Elizabeth, Anne, Ebenezer, Eliphalet, 1709 to 1728.

Several other Wilmarths came from that town: Samuel, — son of Thomas 2d, of Rehoboth — Jonathan, Nathan, Stephen, — sons of Jonathan of that place — Daniel, etc.

The Deanes came from Taunton, Ellises, Drapers, etc., from Dedham, subsequent to 1730.

It is not expected that the foregoing list includes *all* who came previous to that period. The names of the original ancestors of some could not be ascertained.

The following list of names, etc., is here printed exactly as it was in the first edition of this History. While it was doubtless a matter of curiosity to some at the time it was prepared, it will at this time be much more of a curiosity to many, and is therefore given.

LIST OF THE NAMES OF PERSONS NOW IN TOWN, WITH THE NUMBER OF EACH NAME
ATTAINED, TAKEN FROM THE TAX LIST OF 1832.

A. Albey 1 — Alger 2 — Aldrich 1 — Allen 8 — Alexander 1 — Arnold 3 — Atherton 2 — Alwell 1.

B. Babcock 3 — Bacon 2 — Barrows 8 — Bates 6 — Bailey 1 — Baldwin 1 — Bishop 3 — Blake 1 — Blackington 9 — Blackwell 1 — Blanchard 1 — Blanding 4 — Bliss 5 — Bolcom 8 — Bosworth 1 — Bourne 1 — Bowen 5 — Bragg 2 — Briggs 7 — Brown 4 — Bruce 1 — Bullock 2.

C. Capron 11 — Cargill 1 — Carpenter 14 — Chase 2 — Chandler 1 — Cheever 1 — Chickerling 1 — Claflin 14 — Clark 2 — Claves 1 — Clinlock Me. 1 — Cobb 2 — Coddling 3 — Cole 2 — Colum 1 — Cook 1 — Cooper 3 — Cornell 2 — Crocker 1 — Crowningshield 1 — Cutting 1 — Cummins 5 — Cushman 3.

D. Duggett 11 — Dart 1 — Day 2 — Davis 1 — Deane 11 — Derry 1 — Dodge 2 — Draper 17 — Drake 2 — Dunham 2.

E. Earl 1 — Eddy 1 — Eldridge 3 — Ellis 3 — Everett 4.

F. Fales 1 — Fairbrother 2 — Field 3 — Fisher 6 — Follet 2 — Forbush 1 — Foster 6 — Franklin 1 — Freeman 7 — French 7 — Frost 1 — Fuller 21 — Ferguson 1 — Furthinton 1.

G. Gardier 2 — Gay 1 — George 2 — Gilbert 1 — Giles 1 — Goff 1 — Grant 3 — Green 3 — Guild 2.

¹ Tyler, Abraham, Haverhill, 1650, died the sixth of May, 1674. Job, Andover, 1653, had a son Moses who died, 1727, aged eighty-five, having had ten sons. — Nathaniel, Lynn, 1642. — *Far. Reg.*

There was a Rev. William Tyler, a native of Attleborough, and son of a Colonel Tyler, who removed to Pawtucket. There was one Hannah Tyler, who married General Nathaniel Gould, October 1, 1810. She was born in 1780, and died August 19, 1825, resided in Dedham. The names of Ebenezer and Samuel Tyler are found on a bury to Rehoboth, October 3, 1684.

² Grandson of Thomas Wilmarth, Sr., who came into Rehoboth as early as March 28, 1645, with his wife and children. This name was anciently spelt Wilmot.

H. Hail (4) — Haines 1 — Harkness 1 — Hargis 2 — Hart 3 — 4 — Harris 2 — Hartwell 1 — Hawks 1 — Helmsback 1 — Helmer 5 — Holmes 7 — Hunt 1 — Horton 5 — Hunt 2 — Huntress 1 —

I. Idris 1 — Ingraham 1 — Ingraham 3 —

J. Jackson 2 — Jewett 2 — Johnson 5 — Jones 1 —

K. Kent 1 — Kemptool 2 — Knowles 1 —

L. Lane 1 — Latham 1 — Lathrop 1 — Levey 1 — Lee 1 — Lewis 1 — Lonsdale 3 —

M. Main 1 — Martin 6 — Mason 3 — May 3 — Metcalf 1 — Morse 3 — Morse 6 — Morley 1 —

N. Nelson 4 — Newman 1 —

P. Page 3 — Pennington 3 — Peck 6 — Perry 3 — Page 2 — Pierce 3 — Pike 3 — Philip 1 — Pined 1 — Pliska 1 —

R. Reed 9 — Richards 22 — Richardson 15 — Riley 1 — Rhodes 2 — Russell 6 — Rogers 1 — Rounds 1 —

S. Sanford 2 — Savory 1 — Shaw 3 — Sheridan 1 — Shepard 1 — Shepherden 1 — Skene 1 — Sisk 1 — Smith 1 — Spang 1 — Stanton 13 — Starker 3 — Stearns 1 — Stafford 1 — Stratton 1 — Street 1 — Swan 1 — Sweet 6 —

T. Tamm 2 — Taylor 3 — Thurston 2 — Tithers 2 — Todd 1 — Tongue 2 — Tros 2 — Towne 3 — Tripp 3 — Tucker 1 — Turner 1 — Tyler 1 —

W. Wake 1 — Welch 1 — Weston 3 — Warner 1 — Warrick 4 — Westcott 2 — Wheeler 1 — Whipple 3 — Whiting 4 — White 7 — Winter 2 — Winters 3 — Winstead 11 — Withers 4 — Witherell 2 — Woodcock 2 — Wood 3 — Woodley 1 — Wright 5 —

There are about 200 different names and names on the list, and of its different possessors. There are, of course, some other names (1) known which are not in the assessor's list, but the above catalogue includes the most of them. These names, multiplied (in some, more, in others, less) by others.

LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES

From the Territory, in 1894 to the closing of 1887. (Persons of first and last names only, many of them, unless otherwise designated.) At present there are no new names.

1706. David Freeman.	1728. Capt. Joseph Brown.
1710. David Freeman.	1729. Mr. Nathaniel Compater.
1711. David Freeman.	1730. Capt. John Foster.
1712. Capt. Joseph Brown.	1731. Capt. John Foster.
1713. Mr. David Freeman.	1732. Capt. John Foster.
Lieut. Norman Ide.	1733. Nathaniel Carpenter.
1714. Lieut. Nicholas Ide.	1734. Sergeant Brown.
1715. David Freeman.	1735. Nathaniel Carpenter.
1716. David Freeman.	1736. Capt. Matthew Duggitt.
1717. David Freeman.	1737. Capt. R. Johnson.
1718. David Freeman.	Capt. Matthew Duggitt.
1719. Jeremiah Whipple.	John Foster, Esq.
1720. Lieut. John Duggitt.	Thomas Tamm.
David Freeman.	Sargent Taylor.
1721. David Freeman.	Alfred Reed.
1722. Asa, son of Edward.	John Foster, Esq.
1723. Capt. John Foster.	John R. Allen.
1724. Mr. Nathaniel Compater.	John R. Allen.
1725. Capt. John Foster.	1731. Capt. Matthew Duggitt.
1726. Capt. Joseph Brown.	1732. Capt. Matthew Duggitt.
1727. Capt. Joseph Brown.	1733. Mr. John Foster.

The names and positions of the representatives are given, among the first names, after the correspondence. The names are given in the same order as they appear in the list.

Some of the names of the representatives are given in the list, and the names of the first names are given in the list. The names of the first names are given in the list, and the names of the first names are given in the list.

— Some names are given in the list.

1744. Capt. Mayhew Daggett.
 1745. Capt. Samuel Tyler.
 1746. Perez Bradford, Esq.,
 Capt. Mayhew Daggett.¹
 1747. Capt. Samuel Tyler.
 1748. Capt. Samuel Tyler.
 1749. Capt. Samuel Tyler.
 1750. Benjamin Day.
 1751. Benjamin Day.
 1752. Benjamin Day.
 1753. Benjamin Day.
 1754. *Name not on record.*
 1755. *Name not on record.*
 1756. Lieut. Josiah Maxey.
 1757. Lieut. Josiah Maxey.
 1758. Lieut. Josiah Maxey.
 1759. Dea. Benjamin Day.
 1760. Japhesh Bicknell.
 1761. Stephen Fuller.
 1762. Stephen Fuller, Esq.
 1763. Stephen Fuller, Esq.
 1764. Dea. Ebenezer Lane.
 1765. Dea. Ebenezer Lane.
 1766. Dea. Ebenezer Lane.
 1767. Dea. Ebenezer Lane.
 1768. John Daggett.
 1769. John Daggett.
 1770. John Daggett.
 1771. John Daggett.
 1772. John Daggett.
 1773. Capt. John Daggett.
 1774. Capt. John Daggett.
 1775. Capt. John Daggett.
 1776. Capt. John Stearns.
 1777. Capt. John Stearns,
 William Stanley.
 1778. Capt. Elisha May.
 1779. Capt. Elisha May.
 1780. Capt. Elisha May,
 John Daggett.
 1781. Elisha May.
 1782. *Name not found.*
 1783. Col. Stephen Richardson.
 1784. Elisha May, Esq.
 1785. Col. Stephen Richardson.
 1786. Capt. Ebenezer Tyler.
 1787. William Stanley.
 1788. Elisha May, Esq.
 1789. Capt. Caleb Richardson.
 1790. Maj. Ebenezer Tyler.
 1791. Elisha May, Esq.
 1792. Maj. Ebenezer Tyler.
 1793. Elisha May, Esq.
 1794. Elisha May, Esq.
 1795. Elisha May, Esq.
 1796. Elisha May, Esq.
 1797. Elisha May, Esq.
 1798. Elisha May, Esq.
 1799. Col. Ebenezer Tyler.
 1800. Elisha May, Esq.
 1801. Elisha May, Esq.
 1802. Maj. Ebenezer Tyler.
 1803. Maj. Ebenezer Tyler.
 1804. Maj. Ebenezer Tyler.
 1805. Ebenezer Bacon.
 1806. Joel Read, Esq.
 1807. Ebenezer Bacon.
 1808. Joel Read.
 1809. Joel Read.
 1810. Joel Read.
 1811. Joel Read,
 John Richardson,
 Benjamin Bolcom.
 1812. John Richardson,
 Joel Read,
 Benjamin Bolcom.
 1813. Joel Read,
 Benjamin Bolcom,
 John Richardson.
 1814. Capt. Thomas French.
 Jabez Newell.
 1815. Abiathar Richardson, Jr.
 1816. Ebenezer Daggett, Esq.
 1817. *Sent no one.*
 1818. *Sent no one.*
 1819. *Sent no one.*
 1820. Abiathar Richardson, Jr.
 1821. Abiathar Richardson, Jr.
 1822. Ebenezer Daggett, Esq.
 1823. Ebenezer Daggett, Esq.
 1824. *Sent no one.*
 1825. William Blackinton.
 1826. William Blackinton.
 1827. George Ellis,
 Elkanah Briggs,
 Abiathar Richardson, Jr.
 1828. George Ellis,
 Elkanah Briggs, Esq.
 1829. Elkanah Briggs, Esq.
 1830. Elkanah Briggs, Esq.
 1831. Abijah M. Ide, Esq.
 1832. Abijah M. Ide, Esq.
 1833. Abijah M. Ide, Esq.
 1834. Abijah M. Ide, Esq.
 1835. David E. Holman.
 1836. John Daggett,
 David E. Holman,
 Lemuel May.

¹ July 22d, 1746, owing to Bradford's death.

1838. John Duggott.	1861. Gustavus C. Hodges.
1839. Charles Emerson.	1862. William D. Earl.
Amosiah Bliss.	Frederick Bates.
John Duggott.	1863. Hiram N. Richardson.
1840. Charles Emerson.	John Thompson.
Amosiah Bliss.	1864. Hiram N. Duggott.
1841. William D. Emerson.	Moses B. Duggott.
Adoniram Stanley.	1865. Henry K. W. Allen.
1842. Adoniram Stanley.	Jos. N. Cresson.
William D. Emerson.	1866. John Duggott.
1843. Daniel W. May (M.).	Edmund Ing. Richards.
Gust. H. Reddings.	1867. Joseph A. Platts.
1844. Daniel May.	1868. William D. Emerson.
Frederick Foster.	1869. Joseph D. Platts.
1845. Daniel May.	1870. Gustavus C. Wright.
Frederick Foster.	1871. John T. Bates.
1846. George Burdett.	1872. Omer C. Feltman.
Hiram C. Crafts.	1873. Ephraim S. Smith.
1847. George Burdett.	1874. Samuel S. Gimmedo.
Hiram C. Crafts.	1875. Frank G. Williams.
1848. Nathanial.	1876. Henry C. Reed.
1849. Gustavus D. Emerson.	1877. George A. Adams.
Samuel C. Gimmedo.	1878. George F. How.
1850. Gustavus D. Emerson.	William J. Wales.
Samuel C. Gimmedo.	1879. John Stanley.
1851. Lyman W. Duggott.	1880. James C. Harper.
1852. Lyman W. Duggott.	1881. George N. Cresson.
1853. Lyman W. Duggott.	Ephraim Smith, Jr.
1854. Nathanial.	1882. Isaac Williams.
1855. Charles C. Platts.	1883. Isaac Williams.
1856. Charles Platts.	1884. Hiram N. Duggott.
1857. Oliver M. Richardson.	George A. Adams.
1858. Thomas M. Richardson.	1885. George A. Adams.
1859. William M. Richardson.	1886. Frank I. Barden.
1860. Nathanial.	1887. Emerson C. Gimmedo.
1861. Gustavus D. Emerson.	Abijah T. Wales.
Nathanial Williams.	

LIFE OF NATHANIAL.

There are no other lives of members of South Church or the other Church of Boston. Upon the last page of the first book of the church book the following records of members of the General Church Congress and of the Church of Boston, the Bible of the Church of Boston, the first meeting of the General Church of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Church of Boston, Mass. First meeting.

1800. 1800. 1800. 1800. 1800. 1800. 1800. 1800. 1800. 1800.

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1884. Frederick A. Borden.

¹ Upon the last page of the first book of the church book, the following records of members of the General Church Congress and of the Church of Boston, the Bible of the Church of Boston, the first meeting of the General Church of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

LIST OF TOWN CLERKS.

1697-98.	Anthony Sprague.	1797-98.	Jacob Ide.
1699.	Daniel Jencks.	1799.	Abiathar Richardson.
1700-1.	Anthony Sprague.	1800-1.	Ebenezer Bacon.
1702.	Joseph Ingraham.	1802.	Abiathar Richardson.
1703-4.	Anthony Sprague.	1803-4.	Ebenezer Bacon.
1705.	John Follett.	1805.	Ebenezer Daggett.
1706.	<i>Name not given. Probably Follett.</i>	1806.	John Richardson, Jr.
1707.	John Follett.	1807.	Ebenezer Bacon.
1708.	James Brown.	1808.	Ebenezer Daggett.
1709-12.	John Follett.	1809.	Joel Read.
1713-19.	Noah Carpenter.	1810.	John Richardson, Jr.
1720-22.	<i>Probably same.</i>	1811.	Thomas French.
1723-34.	Thomas Stanley.	1812.	Joel Read.
1735-40.	Thomas Wilmarth.	1813.	John Richardson.
1741-46.	Jacob Newell.	1814.	Joab Daggett.
1747.	Thomas Wilmarth.	1815.	Amos Ide.
1748-50.	John Robbins, Jr.	1816.	Lemuel May.
1751-52.	<i>Name not found.</i>	1817.	Ebenezer Daggett.
1753-54.	Benjamin Day.	1818.	Samuel Draper.
1755.	Jacob Newell.	1819.	Lemuel May.
1756.	John Robbins, Jr.	1820.	Ebenezer Daggett.
1757-58.	Stephen Fuller.	1821.	Wm. Blackington.
1759-62.	John Robbins, Jr.	1822.	Jacob Ide.
1763-65.	Stephen Fuller.	1823.	Ebenezer Daggett.
1766-67.	Henry Sweet.	1824.	Wm. Blackington.
1768-70.	Jacob Ide.	1825.	Samuel Cushman.
1771.	Henry Sweet.	1826.	Elkanah Briggs.
1772.	Jacob Ide.	1827.	Ellis Blackington.
1773-77.	Elisha May.	1828.	Samuel Cushman.
1778.	John Wilkinson.	1829.	Elkanah Briggs.
1779-80.	Col. Elisha May.	<i>Attorneys. Stearns from March year temp.</i>	
1781.	Col. John Daggett.	1830.	Ellis Blackington.
1782.	Ebenezer Tyler.	1831.	Samuel Cushman.
1783.	Elisha May.	1832.	Elkanah Briggs.
1784.	Stephen Richardson.	1833.	Ellis Blackinton.
1785-86.	Ebenezer Tyler.	1834.	Lemuel May.
1787.	Caleb Richardson.	1835.	David E. Holman.
1788-89.	Ebenezer Tyler.	1836.	Elihu Daggett.
1790.	Caleb Richardson.	1837.	Lemuel May.
1791.	Ebenezer Tyler.	1838.	Moses Wilmarth.
1792.	Ebenezer Bacon.	1839.	George B. Richards.
1793.	Abiathar Richardson.	1840.	Hartford Ide.
1794.	Ebenezer Bacon.	1841.	Willard Blackinton.
1795.	Jacob Ide.	1842.	Calvin Richards.
1796.	Abiathar Richardson.		

* 1697 is the first year in which the record of a town clerk's name was found. For the preceding year—1696—it is stated on the book that one Mr. Henry Dorons or Berens, was "Clark to the House of Representatives." There is much irregularity in the early records; the minutes of the town meetings being copied here and there wherever space was found on the books, the chief aim being apparently to utilize every line of every page. Considerable difficulty was therefore encountered in trying to find the records of the annual meetings, and elections of officers. Records and minutes were copied by both selectmen and clerks, and as the latter was always one of the selectmen, the difficulty was for that reason increased.—EDITOR.

* Name frequently so spelt up to a somewhat recent date.

1720.
Benj. Crabtree,
John French,
En. Dan. Read,
John Lount,
Elisha Peck,
Noah Carpenter (Prob.).

1721.
Probably the same, or
Noah Carpenter,
John Foster,
Jeremiah Whipple,
Thomas Tingley.

1722.
Noah Carpenter,
Thomas Stanley,
Daniel Peck,
John Fuller,
John Foster.

1723.
Hezekiah Peck,
Thomas Tingley,
John Fuller,
John Foster,
Thomas Stanley.

1724.
Capt. John Foster,
Noah Carpenter,
Capt. Dan'l Read,
Benjamin Crabtree,
Thomas Stanley,
(Samuel Tyler?)

1725.
Mr. Benj. Crabtree,
Capt. Brown,
Mr. Anthony Sprague,
Job Bartlett,
Thomas Stanley.

1726-27.
Mr. Noah Carpenter,
Capt. Foster,
Capt. Read,
Samuel Day,
Thomas Stanley.

1728.
Deacon Daggett,
John Robins,
Samuel Tyler,
Thomas Wilmarth.

En. Timothy Tingley,
Thomas Stanley.

1729.
Dea. Mayhew Daggett,
Mr. John French,
Pentecost Blackinton,
Thomas Wilmarth,
Thomas Stanley.

1730.
Samuel Bishop,
Deacon Daggett,
Mr. Noah Carpenter,
Thomas Wilmarth,
Thomas Stanley.

1731.
Benj. Day,
James Sweetland,
Dea. Mayhew Daggett,
Thomas Wilmarth,
Thomas Stanley.

1732.
Lieut. Samuel Tyler,
Mayhew Daggett,
Obadiah Fuller,
Thomas Wilmarth,
Thomas Stanley.

1733.
John French,
Beniah Barrows,
Thomas Wilmarth,
Capt. Daniel Read,
Thomas Stanley.

1734.
Probably the same.
Mr. Barrows' name
was omitted.

1735-36.
Capt. Daniel Read,
John Ide,
Noah Carpenter,
Beniah Barrows,
Thomas Wilmarth.

1737.
Jonathan Fuller,
John Ide,
Lieut. Samuel Tyler,
Capt. Mayhew Daggett,
Thomas Wilmarth.

1738.
Benjamin Day,
Lt. Samuel Tyler,
Josiah Maxcy,
Capt. Mayhew Daggett,
Thomas Wilmarth.

1739.
Mayhew Daggett,
Hezekiah Peck,
Benj. Day,
Samuel Tyler,
Thomas Wilmarth.

1740.
Josiah Maxcy,
Eben'r Robinson,
Eng. Timothy Tingley,
Capt. Mayhew Daggett,
Thomas Wilmarth.

1741.¹
Benjamin Day,
Samuel Tingley,
Jacob Newell.

1742-43.
Same as 1741.

1744.
Capt. Tingley,
Thos. Wilmarth,
Benj. Day,
Benj. Wise,
Jacob Newell.

1745.
Thomas Wilmarth,
Benj. Day,
Timothy Tingley,
Joseph Bishop,
Jacob Newell.

1746.
Josiah Maxcy,
Thomas Wilmarth,
Benj. Day,
Timothy Tingley,
Jacob Newell.

1747.
Timothy Tingley,
Samuel Tyler,
John Fisher,
Ichabod Ward,
Thomas Wilmarth.

¹ Three overseers were chosen separate from the selectmen. Three men were also chosen "to care for the preservation of *beaver*."

1748.
Capt. Timothy Tinsley.
Capt. Samuel Tyler.
Capt. John Tinsley.
Thomas Wainwright.
Joseph Williams, Jr.

1749.
Hosea Tinsley.
Capt. Timothy Tinsley.
Capt. Samuel Tyler.
Thomas Wainwright.
Joseph Williams, Jr.

1750.
Capt. Samuel Tyler.
Thomas Tinsley.
Benjamin Tyler.
Thomas Wainwright.
John Robbins, Jr.

1751.
Thomas Wainwright.
Samuel Tyler.
Jacob Ide.

1752.
Jacob Ide.
John Newell.
Benjamin Tinsley.

1753.
John Ide.
Benjamin Tinsley.
Jacob Ide.
Henry Sweet.
Samuel Tyler.

1754.
John Ide.
John Sweet.
Thomas Wainwright.
Jacob Newell.
Benjamin Tinsley.

1755.
Ben. Day.
David Sweet.
Joseph May.
John Phinley.
Jacob Newell.

1756.
John Robbins, Jr.
Benjamin Tinsley.
David Sweet.
Thomas Wainwright.
Henry Sweet.

1757.
Abraham Foster.
Benj. Day, Jr.
Josiah Maney.
William Foster.
Stephen Tinsley.

1758.
Abraham Foster.
Japhet Bicknell.
Stephen Fuller.

1759.
Den. Benj. Day.
John Tinsley.
John Robbins, Jr.

1760.
Joseph Bicknell.
Stephen Fuller.
John Tinsley.
John Robbins, Jr.

1761.
John Daggett.
Den. Benjamin Foster.
Stephen Fuller.
John Robbins, Jr.

1762.
Benjamin Foster.
Samuel Fuller's widow.
Benjamin Tinsley.

1763.
Benjamin Foster.
John Tinsley.
Stephen Fuller.

1765.
John Tinsley.
Mr. Jonathan Day.
Stephen Fuller.

1766.
Benjamin Foster.
Jonathan Day.
Henry Sweet.

1767.
Benjamin Foster.
Benjamin Foster.
Henry Sweet.

1768.
John Tinsley.
Ebenezer Lane.
Jacob Ide.

1769.
Ephraim Newell.
Moses Wainwright.
Jacob Ide.

1770.
Benjamin Foster.
Jonathan Stanley.
Henry Sweet.

1772.
Moses Wainwright.
Ephraim Newell.
Jacob Ide.

1774.
Capt. John Sweet.
Stephen Richardson.
John May.

1775.
Samuel Tyler.
1776.
Elisha May.
Capt. Benjamin.
Den. Jon. Stanley.

1778.
John May.
John Wilkinson.
Jonathan Stanley.

1779-80.
Elisha May.
Stephen Richardson.
Den. Jon. Stanley.

1781.
Capt. Thomas May.
Capt. John Tinsley.
Benjamin Foster.

1782.
Benjamin Foster.
Moses Wainwright.
Benjamin Foster.

1783.
Benjamin Foster.
Moses Wainwright.
Ebenezer Tyler.

1784.
Elisha May.
Benjamin Foster.
Stephen Richardson.

1785.
Mr. Jabez Gay, Junr.
Capt. Moses Wainwright.
Benjamin Foster.

1786. Capt. Caleb Richardson. Mr. Jabez Gay, Jr., Ebenezer Tyler.	1814. Jesse Richards, Amos Ide, Joab Daggett.	1839. George B. Richards, Moses Wilmarth, Hartford Ide.
1787. John ———, Stephen Fuller, Caleb Richardson.	1815. Ebenezer Daggett, Jesse Richards, Amos Ide.	1840-41. George B. Richards, Hartford Ide, Col. Willard Blackinton.
1788-91. Elisha May, Ebenezer Tyler, Caleb Richardson.	1816. Eben'r Daggett, Jesse Richards, Lemuel May.	1842. Lemuel May, Esq., Calvin Richards, Willard Blackinton.
1792-1800. Jacob Ide, Abiathar Richardson, Eben'r Bacon (Maj.).	1817-20. Samuel Draper, Ebenezer Daggett, Lemuel May.	1843-44. Lemuel May, William Everett.
1801-2. Joel Read, Ebenezer Bacon, Abiathar Richardson.	1821-23. Jacob Ide, Wm. Blackinton, Ebenezer Daggett.	1845-46. Harvey Claffin, Hartford Ide, George Bacon, Harvey Claffin.
1803-5. Jacob Ide, Ebenezer Bacon, Ebenezer Daggett.	1824. Wm. Blackinton, Elkanah Briggs, Sam'l Cushman.	1847. Willard Blackinton, George Bacon, Hartford Ide.
1806. Joel Read, Eben'r Daggett, John Richardson, Jr.	1825-33. Elkanah Briggs, Samuel Cushman, Ellis Blackinton.	1848. Handel N. Daggett, Hartford Ide, Willard Blackinton.
1807-8. Ebenezer Bacon, Eben'r Daggett, Jacob Ide.	1834. Lemuel May, Elkanah Briggs, Ellis Blackinton.	1849-50. Hartford Ide, H. N. Daggett, ¹ Gardner Dunham.
1809-10. Joel Read, Esq., Capt. Thomas French, John Richardson, Jr.	1835. Willard Blackinton, Capt. Elihu Daggett, Lemuel May, David E. Holman.	1851-52. Elkanah Briggs, Joseph W. Capron, Lyman W. Daggett.
1811-12. Thomas French, Joel Read, Wm. Everett.	1836. Moses Wilmarth, Lemuel May, Elihu Daggett.	1853. Ezekiel Bates, Joseph G. Albro, J. W. Capron.
1813. Joab Daggett, Joel Read, John Richardson.	1837. Moses Wilmarth, Henry H. Brown, Lemuel May.	1854. Geo. B. Richards, Hartford Ide, Joseph G. Albro.
	1838. H. H. Brown, Hartford Ide, Moses Wilmarth.	1855. Wheaton Briggs, Hartford Ide, Thomas A. Barden.

¹ Both H. N. and L. W. Daggett seem to have served three years as town clerks, and from 1853 on, three selectmen were chosen, besides the clerk, with the exception of the years 1863-64-65, and 1881-82-83-84-85.

1856.
Hartwell Lee.
William Briggs.
George Perry.

1857.
Edward G. May.
J. W. Carpenter.
George Perry.

1858-60.
Samuel M. Holman.
George Perry.
Edward G. May.

1860.
Thomas A. Barden.
S. M. Holman.
Edward G. May.

1861.
H. N. Douglass.
A. H. Robinson.
Levi L. Bond.

1862.
H. N. Douglass.
A. H. Robinson.
Joseph A. Perry.

1863-64.
H. N. Douglass.
A. H. Robinson.
J. A. Perry.

1865.
William Briggs.
A. H. Robinson.
J. A. Perry.

1866.
William Briggs.
A. H. Robinson.
J. A. Perry.

1867.
William Briggs.
A. H. Robinson.
J. A. Perry.

1868-69.
George C. Wright.
John H. Bond.
David H. Williams.

1870-71.
George C. Wright.
Elisha G. May.
George N. Campbell.

1872.
Elisha G. May.
E. G. May.
A. E. Carpenter.

1873-74.
E. G. May.
T. A. Barden.
A. T. Wales.

1875-76.
G. M. Horton.
D. S. Hall.
H. C. Bond.

1877.
D. S. Hall.
S. P. Lathrop.
A. M. Farnsworth.

1878-79.
S. P. Lathrop.
G. C. Wright.
G. N. Campbell.

1880.
S. P. Lathrop.
E. P. Perry, Jr.
G. N. Campbell.

1881-84.
John B. Sawyer.
S. P. Lathrop.
B. Porter, Jr.

1885.
John B. Sawyer.
Charles T. Gould.
Charles F. Bond.

1886.
C. T. Gould.
Frank T. Bond.
Homer K. W. Allen.

1887.
C. T. Gould.
F. T. Bond.
Gammell B. Draper.

SOUTH ALFRED TOWNSHIP, 1887.

Selectmen and

Overseers of the Poor.

Charles T. Gould, Gammell B. Draper, Stanton Standen.

James Cook.

Paul F. E. Gould.

Frank Thompson.

Arthur F. Goulding.

ALFRED TOWNSHIP, 1887.

Selectmen.

David H. Smith, Samuel P. Lathrop.

Overseers of the Poor.

Daniel H. Smith.

Lyons Freeman.

John T. Bates.

John Wilson was the first surveyor, from 1790. Anthony Sprague held the office

from 1820 until 1867, at the first meeting held January 1867 the township took name. The name remains, ever since August 2, 1887. Mr. Bates was the last clerk.

frequently, at an early date, first in 1717, and John Foster in 1724. Nicholas Peck was for many years Justice of the Peace, and most of the early deeds are acknowledged before him.¹

GRADUATES AT BROWN UNIVERSITY FROM THIS TOWN.

Graduated.²

1776. PRESTON MANN, A.M. *See sketch of Mann family, Chap. XV.*

1783. OTHNIEL TYLER, A.M., son of John Tyler, Lawyer, Sudbury, Mass.

1787. JOHN MILTON MANN. *See sketch of Mann family.*

1787. JONATHAN MAXCY, S.T.D., President of Brown University, Providence, R. I., Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., and Columbia College, Columbia, S. C. *See biographical sketch, Chap. XV.*

1788. JESSE BLACKINTON, son of Peter Blackinton, became a resident of Ashtabula, county of Ashtabula, Ohio, where he was in 1834.

1788. WILLIAM MAY, son of Elisha May, born Jan. 26th, 1764, student of law, died July 12th, 1790, in the 27th year of his age.

1789. PAUL DRAPER, A.M., son of Stephen Draper, born Sept. 19th, 1767, entered on board an American man-of-war, died in 1800, as recorded on town books.

1790. AARON DRAPER, son of Josiah Draper, born Nov. 29th, 1764, never studied a learned profession, — settled in Providence, R. I., where he died in 1818.

1802. GARDNER DAGGETT, A.M., son of Elijah Daggett, born Dec. 20th, 1782. Lawyer, Providence, R. I., where he died in 1821.

1802. MILTON MAXCY, son of Levi Maxcy, born Jan. 1st, 1782. Lawyer in Beaufort, South Carolina, where he died of yellow fever in 1818.

1803. JASON SPRAGUE, A.M., son of John Sprague, was, for some time, Preceptor of the High School in Newport, R. I. He died in the United States army in 1825.

1804. VIRGIL MAXCY, Solicitor of the United States Treasury. *See biographical sketch.*

1807. LORENZO BISHOP, son of Zephaniah Bishop, born Aug. 20th, 1785, student of law, died in Attleborough, May 26th, 1809, æt. 23.

1809. JACOB IDE, A.M., REV. *See biographical sketch, Chap. XV.*

1809. WILLIAM TYLER, A.M., REV., son of Ebenezer Tyler, minister at Weymouth, subsequently at South Hadley, Mass.

1811. BENJAMIN W. COZZENS, A.M., son of Benjamin Cozzens. Lawyer at Pawtucket, subsequently a resident of Providence, R. I., and still later removed to New York.

1811. HARTFORD SWEET, A.M., son of Gideon Sweet, born Oct. 30th, 1790, had not finished studying his profession — the ministry — when he died at Richmond, Va., April 2d, 1818, æt. 27.

1817. EVERETT BOLKCOM, son of Jacob Bolkcom, born September, 1796. Lawyer, Attleborough, died Dec. 19th, 1823, æt. 27.

1821. JAMES ORMSBEE BARNEY, REV., son of Cromwell Barney, of Providence, R. I. Minister at Seekonk Centre, Mass., where he died.

1821. MOSES THACHER, A.M., REV., son of — Thacher. Minister in North Wrentham, Mass.

1822. PRESTON CUMMINGS, REV. *See sketch of Cummings family, Chap. XVI.*

1822. HENRY H. F. SWEET, REV., son of Henry Sweet, born Nov. 1st, 1796. Minister in Palmer, Mass., died Feb. 20th, 1827, æt. 30.

1822. JOHN WILDER, A.M., REV., son of John Wilder. Minister in Charlton, later in Concord, Mass., — died in March, 1844.

1823. BENONI ALLEN, REV. Preacher in Ohio, — died in 1867.

¹One Anthony Perry early took up lands in Attleborough, and settled here, but on account of subsequent changes in the lines — though not in his residence — he died in Rehoboth.

²This list includes those who entered college, and left before completing the entire course. Such facts as could be ascertained relating to them are given.

³The following touching reference to this well beloved son may be found in the will of the father: "My son, Hartford Sweet, deceased, having left no heirs, I cannot otherwise remember him in this my last will, than with regret in view of his untimely death."

1824. DEB. BARNETT, M.D. See *Contemporary Medical College*, VI.
1826. HENRY B. BELL, M.D. son of Andrew Bell, Physician in Boston, Mass., where he died.
1826. WILLIAM STEPHEN STANLEY, M.D. See *Contemporary Medical College*, VI.
1826. SAMUEL TAYLOR WILSON, son of John Wilson. Lawyer in Rochester, N. Y., where he died.
1826. JAMES HARRISON BLACKSTONE, L.D., son of William Blackstone. Lawyer in Boston, Mass., where he died.
1826. JAMES TOWNLEY, A.M., Lawyer. See *Contemporary Medical College*, *Annals of this City*.
1826. STEPHEN CARPENTER THURGOOD, son of James Thury. Physician, died in New York City.
1827. JOHN STEWARD DODDGE.
1828. FREDERICK OLIVER BUCKSON, Esq. Treasurer of Rochester Theological Seminary, and of Bering Institution. See *Contemporary Medical College*, VI.
1828. RICHARD CROMBIE, Esq. Died in 1849.
1828. ISAAC DRAPER, M.D.
1828. GEORGE NELSON BULL, Jr. College physician.
1828. JAMES FRANKLIN BARNARD, Esq. Practised in Boston, Mass.
1828. THOMAS DREW MANSFIELD. Lawyer.
1828. HENRY WYATT BARNES, Esq. Treasurer of the University.
1828. GEORGE ALFRED ALLEN. Teacher in Minnesota.
1828. SAMUEL CROMBIE, Jr. College Physician.
1828. WILLIAM WALTER WOODMAN. College Physician.
1828. CHARLES PIERCE, M.D., son of Thomas Pierces. Pursued his medical studies in New York City, and returned to his native town. He is minister of the Methodist Church in Boston, having supplied at St. Vincent's Hospital, president of the Public Dispensary, and Medical Board, and was appointed by Governor HENRY HOLT as Health Officer of the city. His services in this office and his many other good qualities.
1828. WILLIAM ALBERT WHITE.
1828. GEORGE DEAN BARNETT.
1828. FRED. HENRY CROMBIE.
1828. JOHN NICHOL CROMBIE, a distinguished physician in Boston. He was the son of Andrew Crombie, a minister of the Church in North Attleborough, and there pursued his foreign education. He afterwards in the latter town executed duties of his office.
1828. HENRY CLARK BURN.
1828. STEPHEN WALTER BURN, Esq. Died 1871.
1828. GEORGE RICHARD BURN. Lawyer.
1828. JOHN MACGREGOR DUNN, Esq. American Mission, Asia.
1828. PETER FRED THOMAS, Esq.
1828. ALFRED THOMAS CROMBIE, brother of James Crombie, the minister.
1828. ALFRED GEORGE STORRS, minister of the city, and now in practice.
1828. EDWARD EMORY HARRIS, Esq. See *Sketch of Indiana Medical College*, XVI.
1828. EDWARD OLIVER STURGEY, Physician, New York City.
1828. RICHARD RICHARD JONES.
1828. WILLIAM HARRISON STURGEY. College Physician.
1828. GEORGE FRED STURGEY. College Physician.
1828. JOHN PIERCE. Editor of "Anti-Slavery Opinions." (Referred to in Mr. CROMBIE's letter to 1828. Had a position as a clerk in the City of New York, and later in the "Boston Herald." His son died in addition to position in the "New York Herald," being general manager for the New England States for that paper.)
1828. ALFRED THOMAS CROMBIE. Teacher in Boston.
1828. JOHN ALFRED STORRS. Teacher. (Professor of Greek in Minnesota College. His services occupied the temporary vacancy of 1828. from that institution, 1824.)
1828. HENRY BARNETT, son of H. F. Barnett. Minister of the town of H. F. Barnetts & Co. Teachers in New York.

1887. FRANK WILLIAMS CARPENTER, son of A. B. Carpenter, of this town, a graduate of the class of 1889. [Graduated. Resides in Attleboro'.]

GRADUATES AND STUDENTS AT AMHERST COLLEGE FROM THIS TOWN.

1892. SAMUEL HUNT, REV. *See sketch of Hunt family, Chap. XVI.*

1856. SAMUEL TYLER READ. In college one year. Graduated from Union College in 1860.

1859. JOSEPH OSMOND TITANY. *See sketch of Tifany family, Chap. XVII.*

1860. JOSEPH MASON, born Nov. 1st, 1836. Attended medical lectures in Boston subsequent to graduation. Died Sept. 23d, 1862, while a medical cadet at Mill Creek Hospital, Va. Buried at Woodlawn Cemetery.

1862. FRANK DEAN, son of Lyman W. Dean. Resides in Attleborough.

1862. OTIS CAPRON NEWCOMB, son of Joseph Newcomb, born Dec. 26th, 1838. Attended medical lectures in Boston, taught school in Worcester, Mass., continuing his medical studies there at the same time with Dr. Clark. Died here Nov. 10th, 1865, before his studies were completed. Buried at Woodlawn Cemetery.

1875. FRANK IRVING BARBOCK, son of Horatio N. Barbock, born Dec. 26th, 1851. Lawyer, — practising in Attleborough.

1885. ERWIN ALDEN TUCKER, son of Almond Tucker. Pursuing medical studies at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York. [Now practising there. Sloane Maternity Hospital.]

GRADUATES AT YALE UNIVERSITY FROM THIS TOWN.

1718. NATHANIEL DAGGETT, D.D. President of Yale College. *See biographical sketch, Chap. XI.*

1761. PELATIAH TINGLEY, A.M., REV., son of Timothy Tingley. He was a Baptist preacher, and was settled in Sanford, Maine. About 1780, he became a seceder from the prevailing sect of Baptists, and was the first minister who united with Elder Benjamin Randall, the founder of the new sect, usually denominated Arminian, or Free-Will Baptists, who rejected the leading doctrines of Calvinism.¹

1762. PHILIP DAGGETT, son of Ebenezer Daggett, and brother of Nathaniel Daggett, born Sept. 11th, 1739. He settled and died in New Haven.

1771. HENRY DAGGETT, son of Elder Elihu Daggett, born April 9th, 1741. He settled in New Haven, where he was a merchant. He became a police magistrate, alderman, president of the Board of Health, etc. He died there Sept. 24th, 1830.

1783. DAVID DAGGETT, LL.D. Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Connecticut, United States Senator, etc. *See biographical sketch, Chap. XI.*

1847. EDWARD SHAW, son of Captain Daniel Shaw. Entered college in 1843; graduated in 1847 in a class of 125, the largest class up to that time to graduate from that college. In 1853 entered the service of the United States Government, and became an examiner in the Patent Office at Washington, remaining until the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion in 1861. In 1867 was appointed to a position in the National Medical Library, in the office of the Surgeon General of the United States Army. [1894, still retains that position.]

1887. HERVEY RICHARDS FRANKLIN, a member of the present senior class. [A graduate of the class of 1888. Has removed from town.]

There have been graduates from this town, probably from other New England colleges, and perhaps from colleges in other parts of the country. A full list of their names has not been obtained. Among them was:

JOHN BARROWS, who graduated in 1766 at Harvard College. He was the son of John Barrows. He married his wife in Cambridge, and settled as a schoolmaster in Dighton, Mass. He pursued the even tenor of his way, unambitious of honors. He was a distinguished teacher in his day and educated many of the leading men of that vicinity, his being the only classical school in that part of the country, until the establishment of the Bristol Academy at Taunton. He joined the Episcopal church at Taunton — which then included Dighton — founded by the

¹ See Benedict's Hist. Bap., vol. II, p. 410, where he is erroneously said to be a graduate of Rhode Island College.

was for the remainder of his life partially, and to himself painfully, disabled, but he continued his practice for six or seven years, until about eight years before he died. The accident was the predisposing cause of the disease which caused his death, which occurred May 30, 1879.

He was twice married. His first wife was Mary Guild, of Woodstock, Vt.; the second, Mary Watson, of Newport, R. I. Five children survive: Charles, Fannie, and Mary, by the first wife, and Helen and Isabel by the second.

JAMES W. FOSTER was born in Southbridge, this State, November 15, 1813. His common-school education was obtained at Quechee, Vt., to which place his parents removed when he was ten years old. He studied medicine first at the Vermont Medical College at Woodstock, and later at the Berkshire Medical School at Pittsfield, Mass., where he graduated. He commenced his practice in Foxborough, where he remained something over twelve years, and then in 1854 he came to North Attleborough, where he continued in active practice for thirty years. He was of the homœopathic school, was a successful physician, and one who gained not only the confidence of his patients and acquaintances, but their highest esteem. His death was a public loss and caused a general and sincere mourning throughout the entire community in which he lived.

June 22, 1839, he married Harriet Draper Richards, daughter of Ira Richards, of North Attleborough. They had four children, three of whom are living, and in North Attleborough: Mrs. E. E. Barrows, Dr. James R. Foster, and Mrs. W. G. Clark. Dr. Foster died in September, 1885, and Mrs. Foster some years previous to that time. [Mrs. Barrows is also dead.]

NAMES OF REGULAR PHYSICIANS NOW PRACTISING IN ATTLEBOROUGH (1887).

Dr. Edward Sanford, Dr. John R. Bronson, Dr. James R. Foster, Dr. Frederick L. Burden, Dr. George Mackie, Dr. Joseph B. Gerould, Dr. Thomas P. McDonough, Dr. Henry S. Kilby, Dr. Herbert C. Bullard, Dr. Charles S. Holden, Dr. George K. Roberts, Dr. J. W. Battershall, Dr. Arthur V. Rounds, Dr. Laura V. G. Mackie, Dr. Mary W. Battershall.

EDWARD SANFORD was born in Raynham, this State, in 1825. He was educated partly at Bristol Academy, Taunton, and partly by private instructors. He graduated at the Harvard Medical School in 1852 and during the same year came to this town and commenced the practice of medicine in the East village. In 1856 he visited Europe for the combined purposes of study and travel and since that time has continued to practise here uninterruptedly. He is the oldest practitioner in town, the oldest of the three leading practitioners of his day here, as he preceded both Dr. Foster and Dr. Bronson by a few years. He has reached a high stand in his profession, especially in the school he adopted — the homœopathic.

In 1855 he married Olive A. Thompson, daughter of Archibald Thompson, then of this town. Their children are: John A., Caroline E., who married Dr. Charles S. Holden, now of this town, and Mary W., who married Dr. W. L. Elliot, also of this town, in the practice of dentistry. Mrs. Sanford died July 18, 1887.¹

JOHN R. BRONSON was born in Middleborough, Conn. His medical education he obtained at the Berkshire Medical College at Pittsfield, this State. In 1852 he came to Pawtucket, then in Massachusetts, where he remained in practice for four years. In 1856 he came to East Attleborough and settled. In the spring of 1862 he went south as a surgeon in the Union army. He had charge at first of the Union Hospital at Williamsburg and later of the one at Fortress Monroe for some months. Since then, until within the past few years, he continued his professional labors in this and adjoining towns without interruption. He had for many years a large practice which extended over a radius of fifteen or twenty miles. His is the old school of practice, and he has always been a reliable and successful physician. Owing to the state of his health he has relinquished a large portion of his practice, but continues to be, as he always has been, actively interested in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the town. He was one of the most ardent opposers of division. He was at one time connected in business with the late William D. Wilmarth.

¹ July 3, 1889, Dr. Sanford was married to Miss Irene Fuller, of Washington, D. C. Her father was the late Pliny B. Fuller, of this town, son of Mr. Zeleotes Fuller.

A TABLE OF THE POPULATION OF THIS TOWN IN 1830, WITH THE DIFFERENT AGES, ETC.

	Under 5.	5-10.	10-15.	15-20.	20-30.	30-40.	40-50.	50-60.	60-70.	70-80.	80-90.	Colored.
Males.....	198	162	163	170	233	189	142	82	70	31	8	9
Females.....	209	182	186	204	356	231	151	115	75	32	15	2
Whole number of females												1,758
„ „ males												1,457
Excess of females over males												301
Number of inhabitants in Bristol County												49,592
„ „ „ Massachusetts												610,408
„ white males in												294,685
„ colored males in												3,360
„ white females in												308,674
„ colored												3,685
Total males in Massachusetts												298,045
„ females in												312,550
Excess of females in Massachusetts												14,314

NUMBER OF INHABITANTS IN UNITED STATES.

Males, white and colored, in 1830	6,521,409
Females „ „ 1830	6,333,481
Excess of males	187,928
Total	12,854,890
Seamen, etc.	11,130
Total population of United States	12,866,020
Population of United States in 1880	50,155,783
„ „ Massachusetts in 1880	1,783,085
„ „ Bristol County in 1880	139,040
„ „ Attleborough in 1880	11,110

The increase in the population of the country in the fifty years between 1830 and 1880 was nearly fourfold; in the State nearly threefold; in the county nearly threefold;—over two and four fifths—and in the town, over threefold,—nearly three and one half.

The whole area of the town, according to the survey ordered by the Legislature, is twenty-nine thousand acres; by valuation twenty-six thousand. —actual valuation twenty-six thousand, two hundred and eighty-three. When Attleborough included Cumberland, it must have contained nearly sixty thousand acres.

Number acres of woodland about 1830	2,158
„ „ „ fresh meadow about 1830	1,797
„ „ „ tillage lands „ „ including orchards	1,205
„ „ „ pasture lands	1,503
„ „ „ unimproved and unimprovable ¹ land	12,740
„ „ covered with water	360
„ of dwelling-houses about 1830	409
„ „ barns	345
„ „ tan-houses	1
„ „ shops	28
„ „ stores	12
„ „ grist-mills	3
„ „ saw-mills	7
„ „ cotton factories	8

¹This is a large estimate, doubtless more than truth will warrant. There is strictly but little land in this town which is absolutely *unimprovable* for purposes of agriculture, for tillage or grazing. There is, however, a large quantity which is not actually under constant cultivation, but there is only a small proportion of this which is not occasionally cultivated.

Total valuation of land	\$1,690,902.00
„ „ „ buildings	3,432,673.00
	<u>\$5,123,275.00</u>
Tax raised on real and personal estate	\$115,741.32
Polls	6,735.00
Overlay	6,052.80
Total	<u>\$128,529.12</u>
North District	\$61,046.05
East District	52,383.65
South District	15,099.42
Total	<u>\$128,529.12</u>

Rate eighteen dollars per thousand.

The selectmen of the two towns together agreed upon the following division of the assets and liabilities of the old town, and the apportionment of the town debt.

School property in town of Attleborough, Total valuation	\$92,863.00
Other property	7,883.00
Total	<u>\$100,746.00</u>
School property in town of North Attleborough, Total valuation	\$79,689.00
Other property	1,735.00
Total	<u>\$81,424.00</u>
Total appraised assets	\$182,170.00
Cash assets	136,227.36
Total	<u>\$318,397.36</u>
Uncollected taxes	\$37,013.05
Due on Pauper account	977.91
	<u>\$37,990.94</u>
Liabilities	\$232,349.10
Valuation of Attleborough	\$3,077,524.00
„ „ North Attleborough	3,379,075.00
Total „ „ both towns	<u>\$6,456,599.00</u>
Proportion of Attleborough's liabilities	\$110,748.69
Proportion of North Attleborough's liabilities	121,600.41
Total	<u>\$232,349.10</u>
Attleborough's proportion of appraised assets	\$86,830.94
Attleborough's proportion of cash assets	64,932.48
Total	<u>\$151,763.42</u>
North Attleborough's proportion of appraised assets	\$95,339.06
North Attleborough's proportion of cash assets	71,294.88
Total	<u>\$166,633.94</u>
Appraised property in Attleborough	\$100,746.00
Attleborough's proportion of total appraised property	<u>86,830.94</u>
Excess of appraised property in Attleborough	\$13,915.06
Amount of undivided assets	<u>\$37,990.94</u>

CHAPTER XIX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

AS has been seen by the ancient records, there were frequent disputes in the early days over boundary lines. One of these which lasted for many years was that between the colonies of Massachusetts and Plymouth.

The first commission appointed to ascertain the line was in 1640. William Bradford and Governor Edward Winslow acted for Plymouth, and John Endicott and Israel Stoughton for Massachusetts. They agreed upon the line as follows: From the mouth of "Bound Brook" (so named by them) with a direct line to "Accord Pond" (also so named) lying five or six miles from Weymouth, and from there in a straight line to a point three miles south from the southernmost point of Charles River. According to the author in his first edition these commissioners "commenced near the shore at a rock called Bound Rock in the middle of Accord Pond, which is in the line between Scituate and Cohasset, (once part of Hingham) intending to reach by a straight line the most northerly point of Plymouth Colony, on the easterly line of R. Island; but when they had arrived within about three miles they discovered that their course would carry them far to the South of the intended point. Instead of rectifying the whole line (as they should have done) they made an angle and took a new course so far north as to reach the true point." This was the cause of dispute, and from this time the controversy continued. The line was run five or six times. In 1664 there was an attempt to restore the true line, the commissioners then appointed agreeing that the previous one was incorrect because it was "wholly within Plymouth lands." This angle line took a large tract of land, including a part of Norton, Mansfield, and Wrentham, from Plymouth, or Old Colony.

The report of the commissioners who attempted to make the restoration in 1664 may prove of interest to some and is therefore given:—

Whereas the General Courts of the Colonies of Massachusetts and New Plymouth, in New England, did, in order to the settlement of the bound line betwixt the said Colonies, the first, so much thereof as is hitherto undetermined, for better depicting, and impower us, whose names are hereunto subscribed for the effecting thereof, as by that act of theirs recorded in the records at the respective Courts in each Colony may more fully appear, wee, the persons so subscribed and impowered, in pursuance of the service aforesaid, being all assembled at Dedham the 9th of the 3d month, commonly called May, anno 1664, did the day next ensuing travel together into the woods for the discovery of the Southernmost part of Charles River, which having found out, partly by our own view, and partly by the satisfying report of those present with us, (that had labored therein) we all mutually agreed upon the first station. Having measured three miles southerly of the southernmost part of the said River, we marked a tree, and from



ANGLE TREE MONUMENT, ERECTED 1799 NORTH SIDE

established one. For more than a hundred years this war of boundaries continued to be waged, and many commissions were chosen during that time. In 1751 a petition was drawn up and presented to the General Court, praying them to run the Colony line from Accord Pond to a stake, as it was said, set up by Nathaniel Woodward and Solomon Suffrey. Committees were chosen from the various towns interested. Colonel Thomas Bowen, Major John Foster, and Captain Samuel Tyler represented this town at first in the matter, others being chosen later. The proprietors of Dorchester and Stoughton chose Robert Speer, Esq., Mr. James Foster, and Samuel Blake, and these with committees from Norton, Easton, and Wrentham drew up the petition and a reply, which they presented to the Honorable Board. This having been done, it was voted by that body to grant a hearing to all the parties concerned. On the ninth of January, 1752, they were admitted, and heard by council for and against the petition, and then withdrew, and the Hon' Board after some debate thereon voted almost to a man to dismiss this petition, and sent the vote taken to the Hon' House for concurrence, who also voted a hearing & on the 11th day of January the parties were admitted and heard by council, and the House after a large debate voted to dismiss their petition also, by a very clear and full vote, which was a very mortifying stroke to the Petitioners, they being very sure of having their petition granted."¹ The petitioners being from Plymouth Colony were in the right, but the other side were highly gratified at this decision, as they had no desire to give up the disputed tract, even though it was not originally a part of their county or colony.

Finally, prior to 1790, the matter seems to have been pretty thoroughly adjusted, though subsequent to 1820 twelve families were set off from Attleborough to Wrentham by the establishment of a new boundary line or rather in reality by then restoring the true ancient one. This last is now the line between the towns of Wrentham and Attleborough and the counties of Norfolk and Bristol.

At this "Angle Tree" station a stone monument was erected by the authority of the Legislature under the direction of Attleborough and Wrentham. This stone is about fourteen feet in height and two feet in width and of great weight. Upon it is the following inscription. On the north side is written "Massachusetts Colony," and on the south side "Plymouth Colony."

This Monument by order of Government to perpetuate the place on which the late *Station or Angle Tree* formerly stood.

The Commissioners appointed by the old Colonies of Plymouth and Massachusetts to run and establish this line in 1664, were Robert Stetson, Constant Southworth, Josias Winslow, Jos. Fisher, Roger Clap and Eleazer Lusher. They began this work the 10th of May the same

¹ See Blake's Annals.

Seconet Rocks northward to the point of the main land which [is] next over against Mount Hope point to the said Mount Hope point, not touching upon Rhode Island, and so another right line from Mt. Hope point to the next point upon the main land, and so from point to point and from the last point a right line to the River's mouth called Seakonke, and up said river called Seakonke below and Pautucket above till it meets with the Massachusetts line, to be the present bounds between his Majesty's colony of Plymouth and Rhode Island, till his Majesty's pleasure be further known concerning them. And we desire each colony to give the reasons of their pretences and a draught of their country according to their charters that we may give his Majesty true information of them, which we promise to do.

Given under our hands and seals at Newport on Rhode Island March the 7th 1664.

Robert Carr (Seal)

George Cartwright (Seal)

Samuel Maverick (Seal)

A true copy examined with the original,

Per J. Willard, Sec'y.

The following is taken from the *Massachusetts Historical Papers* for October, 1868.¹ This extract is only another proof of the troublesome nature of all boundary lines. Like the two preceding accounts it is of no importance, though it especially refers to our township's early grants; but its quaint diction and curious, old-fashioned spelling cannot fail to make it interesting in the eyes of many. The report of the committee is as follows:

Whereas the Great and Generall Court or Assemble held at Boston the 27: 1664 in the sixth year of their Majesty's Reign did appoynt us the Subscribers to be a Committe to Vew the graunts and Claimes of the Town of Rehoboth, and the Line of the north purchase, or Town of Attleborough and of one Mile and halfe of Land on the northerly side of said Rehoboth and make description of said Lines Clamed by Each: and Report to the next Generall Assemble as by order of the Assemble may appear

In obedience to and in pursuance of sd order Wee haue here underneath Represented the Line between the Collonys of Masathusetts and Plymouth by the double Line A. B. C. D. and E, and haue Caused a Line to be run and measured from the Letter C at the heap of stones by the Road on ten mile hill to the Letter P, being the north Line of Rehoboth Ancient Township: the Chain being caried by one for Rehoboth and one for Attleborough, and the distance is found to be five mile one quarter and 48 rod as per the platt, and from the said P to F three miles and halfe and 14 Rod, these Lines being given we Represent the Ancient Town of Rehoboth of enight Mile square by the Letters F. G. H. I. nextly we Represent the graunt of Attleborough of Enight Mile and ten Mile by the Letters A. N. F: and K, and by the prick line to M: and thence by the prick line to E, and by the Collony Line Thence to the Letter A

Rehoboth Gentlemen by Vertue of a deed bearing date March the 6th: 1683 and sined Thomas Hinckley Governor and sealed with the Collony seall Clame all the Land between the Collony Line potucket River, their Eaight Mile or ould Township and the line lettered G and D: to belong as Township to them:

And the Gentlemen of Attleborough presented to us their Graunt from the Generall Court which is before described by the Lines Lettered A. X. N. K. M. and E:

But perticularly as to the mile and halfe described by the Line Lettered N and O: and thence East by the prick Line Rehoboth Gen^l produce no perticuler original graunt thereof distinct from the rest of the north purchase, but present evidence upon oath that the Mile and halfe was perticularly given to said Town before they made purchase of the north Lands, though all Comprahended in one deed bearing date April 10: 1666 without distinction of gift and sale; and they produce a Citation of the graunt of a Mile and halfe of Land given to the said Town as an in Largement to said Town of Rehoboth which bears date October 27: 1670.

¹ A communication from C. R. Williams, Esq., Rutland, Vt.

the disease." "In the summer and autumn of 1839, an epidemic of a typhoid character, sometimes accompanied with pneumonia, occurred on the road leading from Wrentham to East Attleborough. It commenced near the northern line of the town, and extended southerly about three miles to within a mile of East Attleborough, and northerly into Wrentham, and was confined entirely to the road." Eight in a family of nine had the fever, and one died; "and of 20 families scarcely one escaped being affected." There were few fatal cases and the rest of the town was healthy. In 1840 a more malignant type of the same fever appeared in Dodgeville and lasted from July until November. In thirty cases there were four deaths.

No bills of mortality were regularly kept in the town until recently, and the average age of the inhabitants in any given period cannot therefore be obtained.

There have been several instances of very long lives. Deacon Elkanah Wilmarth died at the age of ninety-nine years and seven months. Mary Freeman, relict of Jonathan (or John) Freeman, died March 4, 1762, aged about one hundred years. Widow Sarah Clafin, relict of Antipas Clafin, died in September, 1777, supposed to be one hundred years and six months old. Captain Samuel Robinson lived to approach very near the age of one hundred. Zephaniah Robinson also reached a very advanced age.

John Shepard, "the Ancient," died in this town in 1809, at the extreme age of one hundred and five years. His father was Jacob Shepard, who came to Foxborough about 1703, having purchased some four or five hundred acres of land there from one Captain William Hudson,¹ a trader from Boston. The Indian name of the place was Mamanteepett. A large natural pond on this tract was named for him and is still called "Shepard's Pond." Hudson had here a small house which he occasionally occupied. It was very probably what would now be called a hunter's lodge, though he also made it a sort of tavern for the accommodation of such travelers as then passed over the "Bay Road," and to these he was licensed to sell "wine and liquors." He had some trouble with the authorities of the day and sold out to Jacob Shepard. Here John Shepard was born, O. S., February 25, N. S., March 7, 1704, probably the first person born in Foxborough, for his father was the first permanent settler of that town. Here he remained for one hundred and three years; and during that time, without moving from the spot where he was born, he lived in two counties, Suffolk and Norfolk, and in four towns, Dorchester, Stoughton, Wrentham, and Foxborough.

He was married three times: to the first wife, Eliony Pond, August 24, 1726; to the second, Abigail Richardson, August 8, 1728; to the third, Martha Bacon, June 25, 1731. The latter died in Foxborough, April 3, 1800, aged ninety-five years. He had one son and several daughters. Two

¹ The same who served a dinner to the commissioners.

many important respects you have been distinguished from your fellow-men. Tho' you may be ready to say with aged Jacob, "Few and evil have the days of the years of thy servant been," yet must you not be constrained to say, that God is good, that He has never left nor forsaken you, that you have found him faithful to his promises. Are you not ready to testify that the consolations of religion are neither few nor small?

Though you are now old, yet you know not the day of your death. Though you have reason to believe that the time of your departure is not far distant, yet the day and hour you know not. Study therefore to be useful while you live. The long and rich experience you have had of the goodness of the Lord, calls for your warmest gratitude, and highest praises. Endeavor to bring forth fruit to his glory even in old age. Give no place to the too common and unfounded opinion that the aged are useless, and burdens to their friends and to the world. You may yet be highly useful. You may glorify God, and recommend the religion of Jesus to the world, by your patience, contentment, thankfulness, and resignation under the evils and infirmities of old age. You are prepared to give the best of counsel to the young, and that from your own experience and observation, and your prayers may draw down blessings upon the world for ages yet to come. Endeavor to abound in these duties. Though the aged are not capable of performing the active services of young Christians, yet they have services of equal importance, which they only can perform. It is their province and theirs only to show the happy effects which religion has in old age. This young Christians cannot do.

May you still desire and strive to be useful in your sphere. May the faithfulness of God lead you still to confide in his promises. May the hope of approaching glory comfort you in all your tribulations, and animate you to fill up the remainder of your days in duty and usefulness. May you enjoy much of the divine presence and with holy Job patiently wait till your change comes. Then may you meet the applause of well done good and faithful servant, enter through the gate into the city, and have access to the tree of life. Amen.

On July 11, 1885, one of the early emigrants from this town to Harford, Penn., Mrs. Nancy Stanley, was still alive, and on the twenty-third of June preceding she celebrated her ninety-fifth birthday in the city of Chicago, her home. Her father was Laban Capron, of this town, and in the spring of 1794, she, then four years old, went with him, her mother, and a brother and sister, to Harford. She married a Dr. Stanley, and on May 15, 1835, with her husband and nine children, she left New Milford, Penn., and went to the then far West, Illinois. They were a little over a month in reaching Downer's Grove, in that State, where they made a permanent home. Upon her ninety-fifth anniversary she received the congratulations of nearly a thousand people and could then recall even slight incidents connected with her long journey taken fifty years before; and up to that time she had preserved her faculties to a remarkable degree, her hearing only being slightly impaired. There were living of her family at that date, besides herself, six children, twenty-seven grandchildren, twenty-nine great-grandchildren, and one of the fifth generation, making, with herself, sixty-four in all.

Among the residents of our town who attained to remarkable age was Joseph Carpenter. He was the son of James and Lucy Bliss Carpenter, of Rehoboth, and was born in that town September 8, 1789. He was the grandson of Colonel Thomas Carpenter, of Rehoboth, of Revolutionary fame, who was sometimes associated with Colonel John Daggett, of this town, in military enterprises and in a manner which redounded to the credit of both. On February 21, 1813, he married Nancy Bullock, of his native town, and

his age, for there was nothing in his appearance to indicate aught else than a well-preserved man of threescore years and ten. The Editor had an interview with him not very long since, which will always be recalled as among the pleasantest of the many gratifying memories connected with the preparation of this book. Mr. Draper is very deeply interested in religious matters, and practically, for he believes that, so long as life is given to a man, so long will certain things be required of him. Age is no excuse, if mind and health remain, and, realizing that the duties of religion are of paramount importance, he makes them his chief consideration and performs them in public and in private conscientiously and intelligently. May he live to be at least a hundred years old, a shining example to all around him! ¹

The town has had in a somewhat literal sense one real son of independence, for Eliphalet Clafin was born here on July 4, 1776.

In many of the ancient towns of the colonies, there were occasionally found original and eccentric characters, who preferred the wilderness to the more cultivated parts of the country.

Among the early inhabitants of this town was one Joseph Chaplin, who became a proprietor and a great landholder. He was of respectable descent. He came here from Rowley, Mass., and was a descendant of Rev. Hugh Chaplin, who came over in 1638, and who lived and died in that town. He was a man of peculiar tastes and habits and eccentric in his conduct. He laid out a large quantity of land, in all about seven hundred acres, including the most of that large tract formerly called the "Half-Way Swamp," and his other lands were located on the "East Bay Road" and vicinity. His mania seemed to be the acquisition of land, but he could cultivate only a small portion of his extensive possessions and could derive no profit from the rest. He lived completely alone, a hermit's life, abjuring all society, especially that of the female sex. The cause of this seclusion is not positively known, but tradition says it was the faithlessness of a young lady to whom he was attached in early life. Chaplin was not morose, but naturally benevolent and kind. He planted several orchards and raised a variety of fruits. He would permit the neighboring women to come and partake of the abundant fruits of his orchards, but was always careful to retire out of sight on the occasion and so remain till they were gone. He kept a large stock of cattle, built his own house, cooked his own food, and made his own clothes. His only companions were a number of large cats, who lived luxuriously on his abundant stores. His name is found on several committees relating to the public lands, of which he was a shareholder, and he was on good terms with his neighbors, so far as any intercourse

¹ Mr. Draper died very suddenly, May 14, 1889. He had failed physically somewhat, but on the day of his death was as well as usual. His daughter was obliged to leave him at one time, and returning in about three minutes, found him sitting in his easy chair, dead.

occupied. He died about 1750 at a very advanced age. His property was divided among his heirs-at-law, Jonathan Chaplin, Elizabeth Chaplin, who married Samuel Searl; and John Chaplin, all of Rowley, this State. They sold his estate here, and none of them remained in town.

Joseph Antoine Richaud was an eccentric man, having adopted rather peculiar religious notions. He was a native of France. For what reason he left his native country is not known. It would seem probable, however, that he imbibed strong republican sentiments, and, having his attention turned to this country by the actions of some of his prominent countrymen, he naturally came here where he could have freedom to frigate in the carrying out of his ideas. It is not known that he had any relative in this country or any acquaintance when he landed on these shores. He settled down at South Attleborough in the village called "the city." He lived alone in a small one-story house, in which he kept a variety store, by which he supplied the neighboring farmers with many of the articles needed for family use. He lived to an advanced age. He was said to be of decidedly choleric temperament and very peculiar, but he was "warmly attached to republican democracy." He made his will and gave all his property to the school district in which he lived, provided a certain possible heir did not claim it within a stated time. Portions of it have been appropriated from time to time to the common-school education in that place. About \$1,100 still remains of this legacy. Richaud was buried in the ancient burying ground in his neighborhood, where the epitaph inscribed on his monument — of which he was the author — may still be read.

The recent death in an adjoining town of Mr. Dan Perry calls to mind the once familiar figure of a former resident here, one whose form and features must at one time have been known to almost every inhabitant of the town. Mr. Perry was born in Rehoboth something over eighty years ago and having his native home removed to Seekonk, Massachusetts, (Perrytown in the State of Massachusetts formerly known as South.) His hereditary tendencies were inherited from his father, whose family were remarkable as inventors. One of his ancestors was the maker of the first mill which was used in the first cotton-mill ever started in this country. Mr. Dan Perry learned the trade of a blacksmith, and this doubtless proved of much use to him in the practical working out of his inventions. He followed his trade for a time, but it was not long before his inventive genius asserted itself, and again and again his busy brain evolved the idea and his clever fingers constructed labor-saving machines which made him quite famous. He was the first to construct the first reaper and binder, a machine for folding papers, and one he invented is still used by the *New England Farmer*. Another machine of his invention made folding ladders; another turned sword handles. He made butter molds, pails with adhesive hoops, and his was the first apple-parer ever known. Perhaps his best known invention,

however, for which he took out the patent while living in this town, was his "Yankee Water Elevator." Many an overworked, weary housewife has blessed him for its advent and has turned with joy from the ponderous old sweep or wrenching pump to this appliance for economizing time and strength.

Scores of people will remember the homely but intelligent face of Mr. Perry and his tall, somewhat ungainly form, clothed with neatness but with utter carelessness of the fashion of the garments that covered it, moving rapidly through our streets or driving everywhere about the town in an open wagon with a "specimen" of the "Elevator" behind the seat. Many then children, now come to middle age, will remember the stories told them of the powers of this remarkable man and the things which to their wondering minds seemed to border widely on the supernatural, which were said to be and often indeed were within the range of his possibilities. He had striking peculiarities of appearance and manner such as are common to men of his stamp; but these were more than equaled by his good-nature. The fun and jokes called forth by his productions never annoyed him; he was always ready to laugh with those who laughed at them or at him. Every shaft of ridicule, no matter how well aimed, he met with a merry twinkle of the eye and a quick response which generally left the enemy outwitted and himself the master of the field. Unlike many persons of his peculiar genius Mr. Perry was possessed of an abundance of common sense. He was a man of marked individuality; he held original opinions of his own tenaciously and advocated them zealously but with tolerance towards others. He lived a long and busy life and was practically useful to his own generation, as the results of his work will continue to be through coming generations.

Mr. Perry was several times married, but had only two children, both sons. The elder of these was Orin F. Perry, so long engaged in business in Pawtucket and well known to the people of this town, and he is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery here. His wife was Adeline Short, sister of Philip and Mace Short, of this town, and she with a daughter, for years a successful teacher in our schools, resides here.

Within a few months another long-familiar form has left its accustomed place, never to return. Many years ago a man came from Ireland to this town and settled at the Farmers. He lived in a small house near the school-house there and set up his shoemaker's bench in a little shop close by. He worked hard and he earned, though it was sometimes with difficulty that he obtained a sufficient livelihood for his increasing family. But he labored on with unremitting diligence, and here his children grew up to honor him and to be an honor to him. He was long poor in this world's goods; but he and his wife were always rich in kind words and deeds, especially to the school-children of the neighborhood, for whom they repaired all sorts of damages, from worn shoes to cut fingers. If these lines meet the eyes of any who

"went to school at the Furness." Twenty or thirty years ago they will surely recall many pleasant memories of those days connected with those good friends of their childhood. Bleeding faces, torn limbs, torn trousers, rent frocks, or flying buttons were all alike to the patient fingers of this busy woman, who was never too busy to restore the ravages of accident or carelessness or to comfort the timid hearts of frightened little ones. Year after year she had worked at her humble trade, long after the necessity for daily toil had passed away, for as the years went on great prosperity came to the eldest son, and his abundant all was placed at the disposal of his loved parents. But that spot alone was home, the routine of the little shop too much his life ever to be laid aside, and he left the worn bench only to enter his grave. He lived a simple, uneventful life; but he lived it respectfully and well, and in this respect he was an example worthy to be imitated by every man, no matter how exalted his position. He brought up his children to honesty and industry and left to them and to their children this richest inheritance. Though he occupied a humble place it will be a long time before John Nerney is forgotten.

The original title to the North Purchase, as already stated, was derived from Alexander, the son of Massasoit and the elder brother of the celebrated Philip, sachem of Pockanoket. His original name was Moosnam, afterwards Wamsitta or Wamsutta, and finally Alexander Pockanoket, which last name was bestowed upon him, and that of Philip upon his brother, by the Plymouth Court on the occasion of the death of their father, Massasoit. It appears to have been a custom with the aborigines in this part of the country, at least with their chiefs, to assume new names on the decease of any one of the family to which they belonged. This custom may perhaps be traced to some Eastern origin, as some of the Indian ceremonies have already been his traditions.

On a visit which these two sons made to Plymouth on June 10, 1660, during a session of the court which commenced June 6 their English names by which they were generally known to us were bestowed upon them. A record of this transaction is preserved on the Old Colony books, which is now copied as follows:

"June 10, 1660. At the earnest request of Wamsitta desiring that, in regard his father is lately deceased, and he being desirous, *according to the custom of the natives*, to change his name, that the court would confer an English name upon him, which accordingly they did, and therefore ordered that for the future he shall be called by the name of Alexander Pockanoket; and desiring the same in behalf of his brother, they have named him Philip."

There has long been controversy among historians concerning the time of Massasoit's death. Almost all historians have usually assigned a date several years earlier; modern biographers and historians have generally supposed

it several years later than the true period. The circumstance of the bestowment of these names upon these brothers is mentioned by the ancient historians, but not the occasion of it, and without fixing any precise date. One writer,¹ who supposes his death to have occurred several years subsequent to 1661, thinks the fact of the father not being mentioned as having attended this ceremony, which was for the confirmation of a treaty, etc., with his sons, occasioned the suggestion that he was dead, and he further says: "It would be a sufficient explanation of his absence however, that he was now an old man, and that the distance of Sowams from Plymouth was more than forty miles."

The above record, however, clearly proves that Massasoit died *a short time previous to June 10, 1660*, and previous to his first publication of it in 1834 the author had never seen it in print. It shows the origin of Wamsutta's modern name, and with the honor of being called after the great warriors of antiquity he and his brother were greatly pleased.

The colonists during this friendly intercourse could not have anticipated that in the course of a few years the younger brother, upon whom they were then conferring the name of an ancient conqueror and who was possessed of all the natural talent and ambition of his great namesake, though not his power or good fortune, would become their most dangerous enemy and the terror of all New England.

It appears that among some tribes of the natives the custom prevailed of changing their habitations as well as their names on the decease of a member of the family. I have learned from a reliable source the following instance: On a part of the farm of the late Ebenezer Daggett (most recently of the late Harvey M. Daggett), previous to its occupation by the whites, and for some years after, resided several families by the name of Read, who were said to be of a mixed race, Indian and negro, and who were always observed to change the location of their huts on the death of any one of their number. This change occurred several times within the observation of the early settlers. This custom they probably derived from their Indian descent. At one time the huts of these people were on the brook passing through the farm, where it crosses the "East Bay Road," very near the old Daggett homestead. The survivors who lived till after this road was laid out, which passed near their dwellings, requested that when they died they might be buried near that road with their heads towards it, "*so that they could hear the news when the great post-stage passed.*"

Their request was complied with and they were buried a few rods from the route where the old road passed, with their heads in that direction. The place where they were buried is still pointed out in a small valley on a elevated ground. The hillocks over their graves, four in number, were distinctly

¹ B. B. Thatcher. See his *Indian Biography*, vol. 1, chap. VII, p. 141.

quills within the handwriting of the author. They seemed to have no sign of a physical extinction by death, but to consider it as some sort of eternal *Quies* merely and not a destruction of the material system. The postman's horn has never disturbed their slumbers, and the news of the great post-stage for which they longed has never reached their ears. The postwoman of the battlefield has long since leveled the mounds that covered their graves. The postman's stage, too, has long since disappeared from the hills and valleys of New England, and the cheerful echoes of his horn have ceased to send their lively sounds to the listening ears of lonely settlers. The laboring outliner that wound its slow way from Boston to Bristol and returned once a week has given place to a swift cyclone which announces its passing with a frightful shriek and which flies over the same distance daily in two hours' time. These humble sleepers still wait for the coming of the "newes" that will never be brought to them.

Many of the people of this town have emigrated to other parts of the country. Various families at different periods removed to Vermont, New Hampshire, Ohio, and western New York, and some twenty years ago many emigrated to different towns in Maine and laid the foundation for some of them. Union included many inhabitants from this place.

In 1789 a number of young men in this town, mostly unmarried and without much capital, believing they could better their condition by emigrating to some place where land was newer and cheaper, formed a company for the purpose of purchasing a tract of land in a new settlement. They met in various places in their neighborhood and discussed the subject in all its bearings. Nine persons joined this company, which was called "The Nine Partners." They were: Hiram Tiffany, Gideon Richardson, Jno. Enfield Titus, Robert Follet, John Carpenter, Moses Thacher, Daniel Carpenter, Samuel Thacher, and Josiah Carpenter, all of Attleborough. Tiffany, Titus, and Follet were married, and all but Tiffany, who was over thirty, were under twenty-five. After examining several locations in western New York they finally selected a tract in Susquehanna County and purchased a tract of land four miles long and one mile in width in Susquehanna County for \$1,000, which \$5,000. On Tuesday, May 18, 1790, they reached the "Beaver Meadows" in the westerly part of their purchase, and close by a large spring of pure water, one of the members had built a pine shelter as a temporary shelter. The writings for their purchase were drawn up and signed on a hemlock stump, May 22, 1790. That region was then the solitude of an immense wilderness, a rocky, rough, and mountainous tract, but they later saw it become as the present with its numerous villages, sawmills, manufactories, mechanics' shops, and stores, making of it one of the pleasantest towns among the hills and valleys of its great State; and in due time the iron roadway brought intercourse with the outside world.

"To distribute their joint purchase, a plan was adopted by which 150

acres were assigned to each partner, and the remainder kept as a common domain. The division, like that of Israel's promised inheritance was made by lot, and resulted satisfactorily. By a subsequent arrangement with Mr. Drinker, the landholder, their joint obligation for the wholesale purchase was cancelled, and individuals became responsible for their own possessions." The purchasers at once commenced clearing some portions of their land and preparing it for habitation; but having no means of procuring the provisions necessary for their support they returned to Attleborough till the fall. Having thus commenced their settlement they continued for a year or two to go back and forth between it and this town. Like the company, it was called "The Nine Partners" until 1807, when it was incorporated as a town under the name of Harford.

These nine young men were followed by a large number of their friends and relatives from this town. February 2, 1792, Hosea Tiffany and wife, with their three children — Hosea, Amos, and Nancy — and Robert Follet, wife, and daughter Lucy, started from here with ox teams and arrived at the settlement the first week in March. These were the first white women who visited that place. In the spring of 1794 additions to the settlement were as follows: Laban Capron,¹ wife, and children; Thomas Sweet, wife, and daughter; John Carpenter, wife, and son; Samuel Thacher, wife, and son; John Tyler, Jr., and Dr. Capron. In the fall of that year John Tyler, his wife, and children, and Thomas Tiffany, wife, and children went out. The Tylers were three weeks on this journey from Attleborough to "The Nine Partners." In the fall of 1795 Amos Sweet, wife, and children and Ezekiel Titus, wife, and children followed; and during the same year, or soon after, a number of emigrants were added to the settlement: Elkanah Tingley, Obadiah Carpenter and sons, Joseph Blanding, Obadiah Thacher, John Thacher, Moses Thacher, Abel Read, Thomas Wilmarth, Noah Fuller, Nathaniel Clulin, and others. All the emigrants previous to 1800 were from this town, with the exception of Jonathan Oakley, who was a native of New York State. Eight of the "Nine Partners" were living in 1830, forty years after their first view of the wilderness; fourteen years later, in 1844, only two remained, Ezekiel Titus in Harford, and Moses Thacher in Ohio. In 1846 the last one died. The first marriage in the settlement was that of Orlen Capron to Anna Carpenter, in October, 1798; and the first death was that of an infant daughter of Robert Follet, in December, 1796, and hers was the first body placed in the graveyard. Dr. Comfort Capron began the practice of his profession in Harford in 1794. He died in June, 1800, and his was the first death among the adults.

These families carried their New England homes and customs and forms of social life with them, and the natural results were produced in the reli-

¹ Father of Mrs. Nancy Stanley, before referred to.

gent and educational character of the emigring population. The institutions of New England were introduced into their life as the wilderness, the church and the schoolhouse stood there side by side. The first church was formed Jan. 16, 1806, about two years after the settlement was founded by Rev. Josiah Chapman, a missionary from New Jersey. It was the child of the Second Congregational Church of this town and consisted of seven members, all of whom had come from that church. It also accepted additions from time to time from the mother church. At first the members adopted the articles of faith professed by Rev. Mr. Chapman, who was a Presbyterian and who organized the church, but in March, 1807, they unanimously accepted the confession of 1802 and placed it on the roll of the church in affectionate remembrance of the friends they had left. Soon afterward, however, these were somewhat modified and made more brief. John Tyler and Obadiah Carpenter were the first deacons. The church had but one addition, and that was by letter, for the first three years. In 1806 a young man, Thomas Smith, was added by letter, and in 1807 and 1808 a larger edifice was built. In 1878 the church membership was one hundred and eighty-four, and during the almost eighty years of its existence had had nearly eight hundred names enrolled upon its books. At that time Harford was a very prosperous little town numbering sixteen hundred people.

The church was visited during the several years immediately succeeding its formation by different missionaries from the vicinity, who labored with the people on their occasional visits, but on August 4, 1810, Rev. Ebenezer Kingsbury was installed as the first pastor. He was a native of Coventry, Conn., and a graduate of Yale College. He continued to be the pastor until 1827. Rev. Adam Miller preached his first sermon in the church September 21, 1827, and was ordained June 20, 1829, and continued April 28, 1839. He continued in the service of the people during an uninterrupted period of fifty years. On September 29, 1878, the fiftieth anniversary of his ministry was celebrated, when he delivered a valuable and interesting historical sermon. He had labored with that people through many of their early struggles, until the settlers had built up their social edifice, and now they had become a people well equipped in almost all branches of knowledge. He died December 1, 1881.

The early years of the town were without the organization of a civil organization. For a while they had no magistrates or public officers. They succeeded in governing themselves. The temptations to controversies were very limited with a people who were at first all engaged in subduing and cultivating their soil. But perhaps that which most distinguished them and did them the most credit was their devotion to the cause of education—to their schools and various educational institutions. Great attention was given to the education of the youth of the place. Many of the young emigrants were themselves qualified for teachers before they left their homes, and made

school-teaching their vocation, some of them for life, in their new settlement or in neighboring towns. Rev. Lyman Richardson, son of the emigrant Caleb Richardson, who was one of the original "partners," commenced teaching while quite young. He soon established a select classical school in Harford, which he maintained during his life. It was incorporated as the Franklin Academy but afterward called Harford University. "Ezekiel Titus, Thomas Wilmarth, and Jacob Blake cleared the land whereon Franklin Academy subsequently stood, in 1795-6." In 1817 Lyman Richardson commenced his classical school. In 1830 the name of Franklin Academy was given to the school, and soon after the first building was erected. In 1836 it had become a "recognized institution of learning in N. E. Pennsylvania, having a charter from the Legislature." In the course of twelve or fifteen years a number of small "Halls" had been added to the first building. In these many students boarded themselves and studied. In 1850 the institution became Harford University.

In this school were educated not only the youth of the place but many from various townships in northern Pennsylvania and vicinity. Many were prepared for college and many educated for various other walks of life, who afterward became useful and eminent men. Several were judges in the courts of different States; one was a governor, and others were lawyers, physicians, ministers, teachers, professors, etc., of ability and prominence. Harford has herself furnished several men prominent in public life who were educated in her own schools.

The university flourished for a number of years, but about 1865 ceased its existence as such, for it is said the Rev. Lyman Richardson "closed his work, and heard his last recitation probably" in that year. As far as could be ascertained the number of students who had been enrolled upon its catalogues was about 1,800. "Hon. F. B. Streeter, Solicitor of the U. S. Treasury, says, 'I believe that school has been of more service to the country generally than any other Literary Institution within my knowledge. Franklin Academy has been peculiarly a school for poor men's sons, and the instances are not few of very obscure young men who have left it to occupy stations of comparative distinction and usefulness.'" Soon after the close of the Civil War the State selected the grounds and buildings of this institution as a suitable location for a school for soldiers' orphans. Though no longer the seat of classical learning the site is still used for educational purposes and the orphan school is very flourishing.

Many of the inhabitants of Harford at this day bear the same names which their ancestors carried with them from their native town, and not one of those names has become extinct in this town.

On the whole, we think we have no reason to be ashamed of these descendants in Harford; we think they have done credit to their ancestry. Long may they sustain the institutions which they reestablished on the banks of

the Scriptures, and abide in the principles which they carried with them from Atholborough, New England! May the seed take even deeper root and flourish more extensively in this fertile soil and bear yet more abundant fruit for future men!

Judge George Leonard, of Norton, was so intimately connected in various ways with this town, and was a man so well known in his day and generation that some mention of him will not be inappropriate. He was an uncle of Lord of the town. Captain Thomas Leonard and Lieutenant James Leonard, of Taunton, of his family, bought fifty acres, more or less, of John Daggett, of Rehoboth. He had business connections here and much intercourse with our fathers of the first generation. He was born in Norton and was a descendant of the first James Leonard who settled in Taunton. The family were for many generations both in Europe and America famous as iron merchants and successful promoters of their creating and great wealth. Thomas and James, sons of James the first, were the founders of the great "Leonard Iron Works" of Norton. The place where they built their foundry was called "Stony Brook" later and now again "Chartley Brook." The origin of these latter names is not known, but were probably once have been the name of some place or stream near the native place of the Leonards, Pontypool, in Wales, and by them given to this little stream on which they settled. One of the early owners here greatly enlarged the original iron works and increased his paternal inheritance of several hundred acres to the extent of nearly a thousand acres, so that at the time of which we write the estate was the largest in Bristol County and probably the largest in New England. Its timber lands were "the most valuable in the State." It is said that the keel of the frigate Constitution, "Old Ironsides," was taken from these lands.

Judge Leonard occupied the old manorial mansion built before 1700, and here, surrounded by his tenantry, he lived in the style of an English country gentleman. The antique and rich furniture which adorned the house was of English make and had descended from his forefathers; his carriage was of the large, ponderous build of their day; and his dress was of the same fashion as that worn by his ancestors when they left their native shore. Inheriting many of the traits of his English and Colonial lineage, he was satisfied, though others had changed, to retain many of their manners and customs. His park was a great attraction and the deer which roamed it at will of great interest to his neighbors and to many travelers from far and near, and from whence he possessed the best of his deer. He was a true gentleman of the 18th century, and was one of the most successful and influential men of his time. He was a judge of probate for several years and performed many important duties as a magistrate and a member of the court. He was

judge of the court of common pleas and later chief justice of the same; was registrar of probate, councillor, State senator, and was a member of the First, Third, and Fourth Congresses of the United States. The iron works were discontinued before his death and saw and grist mills erected on the old foundation, and at present a jewelry shop, some years since established, is using the water power.

There is now scarcely a survivor of those historic times, scarcely one born within the days of Washington; and the few remaining relics of that interesting past are fast disappearing. Some perhaps remember the old manor house in its latter days and the workshop, in whose belfry hung a large bell which summoned the workmen to their meals from distant fields; and the limits of the deer park were pointed out until recently. Some memories will no doubt recall the oft-repeated tales of former splendors connected with this baronial-like residence and its opulent owners, with its many romances, brilliant and shadowy, and perhaps a restless, wandering ghost. The bell has long since ceased its noisy clangor and the belfry been torn down; the laborers' busy days of toil on those broad fields are over; the haunts of the deer have vanished, and the giants of the park have bowed to the ruthless blows of the woodman's axe or fallen neglected beneath the ravages of time; while the fine old mansion itself has lost all prestige of state and antiquity by being *improved* into a *modern* dwelling, and its rare old furniture is scattered to the winds of heaven. If any of the former owners who looked up with pride to that ancient roof with its venerable gables and welcomed their friends within those walls with stately pomp and dignified hospitality could now revisit the earth, they would search in vain for one single landmark of their once beautiful home, and sorrowing they would find themselves in the midst of an unknown people surrounded with scenes new and strange.

There are some very interesting circumstances connected with the early history of that portion of the town now called Mechanicsville or Mechanics. In the early part of the eighteenth century a saw and grist mill stood by the stream there. Previous to 1740 one Robert Saunderson bought the premises and set up a forge for manufacturing iron. This "Bloomery," the name then given to the business, became quite a celebrated establishment. Not very much is known of Mr. Saunderson. He was a merchant of Boston at the time of his purchase, was supposed to be an emigrant from England, and was doubtless a man of substance. He built for himself a house here somewhat after the English style and superior to any in town at that age, where he lived in an elegant and fashionable manner. He furnished it as befitting an opulent gentleman and extended liberal hospitality to his numerous friends and neighbors, providing the highest entertainment for them. He had his wine cellar, his carriage and span of horses, and maintained a state of great luxury. There appears to be no mention traditionally or otherwise of a Madame Saunderson, and it would therefore seem probable that Mr. Sam-

town may have been that very interesting personage, a rich Sachem. It would say the town changed not a whit, by the present we can frequently find the same. And if this conjecture be true, it is reasonable to infer that his family tradition was not like to look at sympathetically on the part of any of the free Aborigines of his day.

His house and its surroundings must have formed an attractive scene, a picturesque scene, indeed. There was the pretty pond with gently sloping wooded banks, the little river flowing (discreetly) by, and the village dwelling itself in its setting of green, shaded with primeval trees by day and lighted up with the lurid fires of the forge by night. It is easy to picture the house and its varied throngs of guests. There is the tall son of the Puritan, sturdy, solemn, austere in garb and manner; there is the stately colonial dame in her stiff, rich robes, with her dignified portly lord, becomingly proud of his comely person, his handsome dress, and his exalted position; there is the modest Puritan maiden, bewitching in her innocence and in spite of her princess and the plain severity of her costume; by her side the city-bred young lady, wearing her toilet of the latest fashion with haughty grace, conscious of her attitudes, conscious of her comments, and there are quaint, demure children, the counterpart in miniature of their stern and sober elders. Again perhaps we see a gathering of youths and maidens who dare to laugh and be merry under the encouraging eye of their gracious host; or possibly some gentlemen of gentility from the far-off town of Boston have driven out to the country mansion, in boats from their old friendly trade wharves, to test the merits of his wine cellar, pronounce upon the rich mellowness of his oldest and rarest liquors, and to drink the health of His Majesty, the King, "after the good old English customs." Still again, in imagination, we may hear the conversation of some manly group as they talk of politics, of their conduct in the old home land, of their being well or ill managed in the new. Now and again the righteous indignation of some elder over a fresh act of injustice on the part of the mother country is forcibly expressed, or we listen to the fiery speech of some hot-blooded youth, who springs to his feet and with hand on sword hilt stands ready to avenge that and every wrong. By the light of the years which have intervened we can see in a scene like this, one which very probably may have taken place here, our great Republic in embryo, and yet as we look back we can but marvel at those wondrous changes the time has wrought.

After a time Mr. Sanderson sold a portion of his property in this town, but for what special reason does not appear, nor is anything whatever known of his subsequent history. Robert Lightfoot, who was also a Boston merchant, was the person, and he bought the "The Master" of the town. He is supposed to have lived in this house, which in later days became still more famous, partly owing to its peculiar construction and partly to the manner in which it has been preserved, and which it was. It is now in the

be known as the "chapel," from the shape in which it was built. It was externally in the form usual to chapels and was two stories high. The upper part was occupied by the family, and the lower floor by the domestics of the household and perhaps farm servants, for the estate comprised much more than the premises occupied by the bloomery. The "old chapel" stood facing the pond and about one hundred feet from it. It was about square in shape, the first story built of stone with very low rooms and stone-flugged floors, but the second story was very high. There was a large circular hall in the centre with a narrow passageway leading into it from each side of the house, and there was a row of triangular-shaped rooms all around. These were all lofty, airy apartments, and all opened into the great central hall. Some parts of the house were elaborately finished, and it long continued to be the most stylish building in town and renowned for its hospitality. Mr. Lightfoot appears to have fully maintained the reputation established by his predecessor, for he administered the civilities of the age to many friends and acquaintances, entertaining them with generous liberality. He came here in 1742. How long he remained is not known, but he removed from here to Newport, R. I., and in 1759 Thomas Cobb purchased the "Bloomery" and all its appurtenances of him and John Merritt and wife, of Providence, who were then part owners of the premises.

Mr. Cobb was born in Taunton and married Lydia, oldest daughter of James Leonard, Jr., one of the founders of the Chartley Iron Works, this connection being probably the cause or the effect of his entering upon the business of an iron manufacturer. We may naturally suppose the business here to have been a profitable one, as Mr. Cobb made quite extensive purchases of land besides that of the property of the forge, etc., which belonged to his predecessors. May 11, 1760, he bought land on the Bay Road, of Hezekiah Peck, of this town. The witnesses to the transaction were John Daggett and George Leonard, Jr. September 11, 1762, he purchased of Amos Sweet, son of John Sweet, two tracts of land, one of twenty acres assigned to Amos in the division of his father's estate, and another lot assigned to Sarah, his sister, containing about thirty-one and a half acres, "with part of a dwelling-house standing on the same." May 18, 1764, he purchased of Benjamin Sweet, another heir of John Sweet, a tract containing thirty-four and three-fourths acres, adjoining the forge pond and his other lands, his entire purchase in Attleborough amounting to one hundred and fifty-five acres, including the iron works. He lived in the "chapel" house, and during his residence of twenty or more years in town he identified himself thoroughly with the people of his vicinity and took an interest in their civil and religious concerns. As a token of his personal regard and appreciation, he gave in his will a legacy to the then pastor of the Second Church, Rev. Peter Thacher. "For the friendship and good will I bear the Rev. Peter Thacher of Attleborough, I give him £50, lawful money, to be

good life, for my Executive health after turned out of my estate within two years after my decease."

The second, seventh, five children of Mr. Cobb's. Thomas, of Taunton, in whom on January 22, 1766, he sold all his lands in that place. Jonathan, to whom on the same date he sold his mansion house, etc. in Attleborough, all which I thought of Robert Lightfoot, John Merritt, Henshaw Park, Aaron Smart, and Benjamin Sweet. David, and two daughters. David was born last September 16, 1748, a gentle, sensible, good man, his father was then everything in the town, never either accompanied him the Lightfoot or by him for himself. He held a greater diversity of public positions, and received of others than any other living man of that age and I discharged them all with great success. He became a physician, a general a judge, was President of the Senate, Speaker of the House, member of Congress one term, Councillor, and Lieutenant-Governor.¹ He married Eleanor Bradish by whom he had a large family of children, and he died in 1830 at the advanced age of eighty-two. Mr. Cobb's two charming and attractive daughters, Hannah and Sally, were regarded as accomplished ladies and ornaments to society.

Though Mr. Cobb disposed of his property here to one of his sons he continued his residence in town for some years, but finally removed to Taunton.

The history of any house would not be complete without romances, and the Crocker's surely do not lack in that regard. Here our Rev. friend Crocker, an eminent clergyman of Taunton, found a wife. He was the sixth minister of the First Church of Taunton and the progenitor of the prominent family of that name there at the present day. In Mr. Crocker's "Family Bible" is the following record: "Attleborough, Nov. 5th, 1761. Then were Josiah Crocker and Miss Hannah Cobb joined together in the solemn covenant of matrimony at her father's, by the Hon. George Leonard, Esq. Mod. Comm. *celebration* *union* *upon* *the* *Rev.* *Mr.* *Thayer* *made* *the* *first* *prayer* *and* *gave* *advice*. Col. Leonard declared us married according to law, and Rev. Mr. Weld made last prayer."²

This was doubtless a brilliant affair and an event of great importance in the town. We should read with eager interest a description of this occasion. We would like to see the names of the chief guests, know what was the dress of the bride, scan a list of the marriage gifts, even to be informed what vands composed the wedding feast. We would read with pleasure the words of good advice spoken by the reverend pastor, learn how the courtly "Judge" pronounced the couple "man and wife," and hear in what solemn, *triumphant* *placid* *congregational* *solemn* *official* / *and* *the* *union* *has* *long* *thus* *fallen* *upon* *every* *actor* *in* *this* *scene*, and of these details the past yields no record.

Now, years after Josiah's happy journey into the sacred and holy life of

¹ See *Massachusetts Historical Society*, *Proceedings*, *Vol. 1*, *1830*, *1831*, *1832*, *1833*, *1834*, *1835*, *1836*, *1837*, *1838*, *1839*, *1840*, *1841*, *1842*, *1843*, *1844*, *1845*, *1846*, *1847*, *1848*, *1849*, *1850*, *1851*, *1852*, *1853*, *1854*, *1855*, *1856*, *1857*, *1858*, *1859*, *1860*, *1861*, *1862*, *1863*, *1864*, *1865*, *1866*, *1867*, *1868*, *1869*, *1870*, *1871*, *1872*, *1873*, *1874*, *1875*, *1876*, *1877*, *1878*, *1879*, *1880*, *1881*, *1882*, *1883*, *1884*, *1885*, *1886*, *1887*, *1888*, *1889*, *1890*, *1891*, *1892*, *1893*, *1894*, *1895*, *1896*, *1897*, *1898*, *1899*, *1900*, *1901*, *1902*, *1903*, *1904*, *1905*, *1906*, *1907*, *1908*, *1909*, *1910*, *1911*, *1912*, *1913*, *1914*, *1915*, *1916*, *1917*, *1918*, *1919*, *1920*, *1921*, *1922*, *1923*, *1924*, *1925*, *1926*, *1927*, *1928*, *1929*, *1930*, *1931*, *1932*, *1933*, *1934*, *1935*, *1936*, *1937*, *1938*, *1939*, *1940*, *1941*, *1942*, *1943*, *1944*, *1945*, *1946*, *1947*, *1948*, *1949*, *1950*, *1951*, *1952*, *1953*, *1954*, *1955*, *1956*, *1957*, *1958*, *1959*, *1960*, *1961*, *1962*, *1963*, *1964*, *1965*, *1966*, *1967*, *1968*, *1969*, *1970*, *1971*, *1972*, *1973*, *1974*, *1975*, *1976*, *1977*, *1978*, *1979*, *1980*, *1981*, *1982*, *1983*, *1984*, *1985*, *1986*, *1987*, *1988*, *1989*, *1990*, *1991*, *1992*, *1993*, *1994*, *1995*, *1996*, *1997*, *1998*, *1999*, *2000*, *2001*, *2002*, *2003*, *2004*, *2005*, *2006*, *2007*, *2008*, *2009*, *2010*, *2011*, *2012*, *2013*, *2014*, *2015*, *2016*, *2017*, *2018*, *2019*, *2020*, *2021*, *2022*, *2023*, *2024*, *2025*, *2026*, *2027*, *2028*, *2029*, *2030*, *2031*, *2032*, *2033*, *2034*, *2035*, *2036*, *2037*, *2038*, *2039*, *2040*, *2041*, *2042*, *2043*, *2044*, *2045*, *2046*, *2047*, *2048*, *2049*, *2050*, *2051*, *2052*, *2053*, *2054*, *2055*, *2056*, *2057*, *2058*, *2059*, *2060*, *2061*, *2062*, *2063*, *2064*, *2065*, *2066*, *2067*, *2068*, *2069*, *2070*, *2071*, *2072*, *2073*, *2074*, *2075*, *2076*, *2077*, *2078*, *2079*, *2080*, *2081*, *2082*, *2083*, *2084*, *2085*, *2086*, *2087*, *2088*, *2089*, *2090*, *2091*, *2092*, *2093*, *2094*, *2095*, *2096*, *2097*, *2098*, *2099*, *2100*, *2101*, *2102*, *2103*, *2104*, *2105*, *2106*, *2107*, *2108*, *2109*, *2110*, *2111*, *2112*, *2113*, *2114*, *2115*, *2116*, *2117*, *2118*, *2119*, *2120*, *2121*, *2122*, *2123*, *2124*, *2125*, *2126*, *2127*, *2128*, *2129*, *2130*, *2131*, *2132*, *2133*, *2134*, *2135*, *2136*, *2137*, *2138*, *2139*, *2140*, *2141*, *2142*, *2143*, *2144*, *2145*, *2146*, *2147*, *2148*, *2149*, *2150*, *2151*, *2152*, *2153*, *2154*, *2155*, *2156*, *2157*, *2158*, *2159*, *2160*, *2161*, *2162*, *2163*, *2164*, *2165*, *2166*, *2167*, *2168*, *2169*, *2170*, *2171*, *2172*, *2173*, *2174*, *2175*, *2176*, *2177*, *2178*, *2179*, *2180*, *2181*, *2182*, *2183*, *2184*, *2185*, *2186*, *2187*, *2188*, *2189*, *2190*, *2191*, *2192*, *2193*, *2194*, *2195*, *2196*, *2197*, *2198*, *2199*, *2200*, *2201*, *2202*, *2203*, *2204*, *2205*, *2206*, *2207*, *2208*, *2209*, *2210*, *2211*, *2212*, *2213*, *2214*, *2215*, *2216*, *2217*, *2218*, *2219*, *2220*, *2221*, *2222*, *2223*, *2224*, *2225*, *2226*, *2227*, *2228*, *2229*, *2230*, *2231*, *2232*, *2233*, *2234*, *2235*, *2236*, *2237*, *2238*, *2239*, *2240*, *2241*, *2242*, *2243*, *2244*, *2245*, *2246*, *2247*, *2248*, *2249*, *2250*, *2251*, *2252*, *2253*, *2254*, *2255*, *2256*, *2257*, *2258*, *2259*, *2260*, *2261*, *2262*, *2263*, *2264*, *2265*, *2266*, *2267*, *2268*, *2269*, *2270*, *2271*, *2272*, *2273*, *2274*, *2275*, *2276*, *2277*, *2278*, *2279*, *2280*, *2281*, *2282*, *2283*, *2284*, *2285*, *2286*, *2287*, *2288*, *2289*, *2290*, *2291*, *2292*, *2293*, *2294*, *2295*, *2296*, *2297*, *2298*, *2299*, *2300*, *2301*, *2302*, *2303*, *2304*, *2305*, *2306*, *2307*, *2308*, *2309*, *2310*, *2311*, *2312*, *2313*, *2314*, *2315*, *2316*, *2317*, *2318*, *2319*, *2320*, *2321*, *2322*, *2323*, *2324*, *2325*, *2326*, *2327*, *2328*, *2329*, *2330*, *2331*, *2332*, *2333*, *2334*, *2335*, *2336*, *2337*, *2338*, *2339*, *2340*, *2341*, *2342*, *2343*, *2344*, *2345*, *2346*, *2347*, *2348*, *2349*, *2350*, *2351*, *2352*, *2353*, *2354*, *2355*, *2356*, *2357*, *2358*, *2359*, *2360*, *2361*, *2362*, *2363*, *2364*, *2365*, *2366*, *2367*, *2368*, *2369*, *2370*, *2371*, *2372*, *2373*, *2374*, *2375*, *2376*, *2377*, *2378*, *2379*, *2380*, *2381*, *2382*, *2383*, *2384*, *2385*, *2386*, *2387*, *2388*, *2389*, *2390*, *2391*, *2392*, *2393*, *2394*, *2395*, *2396*, *2397*, *2398*, *2399*, *2400*, *2401*, *2402*, *2403*, *2404*, *2405*, *2406*, *2407*, *2408*, *2409*, *2410*, *2411*, *2412*, *2413*, *2414*, *2415*, *2416*, *2417*, *2418*, *2419*, *2420*, *2421*, *2422*, *2423*, *2424*, *2425*, *2426*, *2427*, *2428*, *2429*, *2430*, *2431*, *2432*, *2433*, *2434*, *2435*, *2436*, *2437*, *2438*, *2439*, *2440*, *2441*, *2442*, *2443*, *2444*, *2445*, *2446*, *2447*, *2448*, *2449*, *2450*, *2451*, *2452*, *2453*, *2454*, *2455*, *2456*, *2457*, *2458*, *2459*, *2460*, *2461*, *2462*, *2463*, *2464*, *2465*, *2466*, *2467*, *2468*, *2469*, *2470*, *2471*, *2472*, *2473*, *2474*, *2475*, *2476*, *2477*, *2478*, *2479*, *2480*, *2481*, *2482*, *2483*, *2484*, *2485*, *2486*, *2487*, *2488*, *2489*, *2490*, *2491*, *2492*, *2493*, *2494*, *2495*, *2496*, *2497*, *2498*, *2499*, *2500*, *2501*, *2502*, *2503*, *2504*, *2505*, *2506*, *2507*, *2508*, *2509*, *2510*, *2511*, *2512*, *2513*, *2514*, *2515*, *2516*, *2517*, *2518*, *2519*, *2520*, *2521*, *2522*, *2523*, *2524*, *2525*, *2526*, *2527*, *2528*, *2529*, *2530*, *2531*, *2532*, *2533*, *2534*, *2535*, *2536*, *2537*, *2538*, *2539*, *2540*, *2541*, *2542*, *2543*, *2544*, *2545*, *2546*, *2547*, *2548*, *2549*, *2550*, *2551*, *2552*, *2553*, *2554*, *2555*, *2556*, *2557*, *2558*, *2559*, *2560*, *2561*, *2562*, *2563*, *2564*, *2565*, *2566*, *2567*, *2568*, *2569*, *2570*, *2571*, *2572*, *2573*, *2574*, *2575*, *2576*, *2577*, *2578*, *2579*, *2580*, *2581*, *2582*, *2583*, *2584*, *2585*, *2586*, *2587*, *2588*, *2589*, *2590*, *2591*, *2592*, *2593*, *2594*, *2595*, *2596*, *2597*, *2598*, *2599*, *2600*, *2601*, *2602*, *2603*, *2604*, *2605*, *2606*, *2607*, *2608*, *2609*, *2610*, *2611*, *2612*, *2613*, *2614*, *2615*, *2616*, *2617*, *2618*, *2619*, *2620*, *2621*, *2622*, *2623*, *2624*, *2625*, *2626*, *2627*, *2628*, *2629*, *2630*, *2631*, *2632*, *2633*, *2634*, *2635*, *2636*, *2637*, *2638*, *2639*, *2640*, *2641*, *2642*, *2643*, *2644*, *2645*, *2646*, *2647*, *2648*, *2649*, *2650*, *2651*, *2652*, *2653*, *2654*, *2655*, *2656*, *2657*, *2658*, *2659*, *2660*, *2661*, *2662*, *2663*, *2664*, *2665*, *2666*, *2667*, *2668*, *2669*, *2670*, *2671*, *2672*, *2673*, *2674*, *2675*, *2676*, *2677*, *2678*, *2679*, *2680*, *2681*, *2682*, *2683*, *2684*, *2685*, *2686*, *2687*, *2688*, *2689*, *2690*, *2691*, *2692*, *2693*, *2694*, *2695*, *2696*, *2697*, *2698*, *2699*, *2700*, *2701*, *2702*, *2703*, *2704*, *2705*, *2706*, *2707*, *2708*, *2709*, *2710*, *2711*, *2712*, *2713*, *2714*, *2715*, *2716*, *2717*, *2718*, *2719*, *2720*, *2721*, *2722*, *2723*, *2724*, *2725*, *2726*, *2727*, *2728*, *2729*, *2730*, *2731*, *2732*, *2733*, *2734*, *2735*, *2736*, *2737*, *2738*, *2739*, *2740*, *2741*, *2742*, *2743*, *2744*, *2745*, *2746*, *2747*, *2748*, *2749*, *2750*, *2751*, *2752*, *2753*, *2754*, *2755*, *2756*, *2757*, *2758*, *2759*, *2760*, *2761*, *2762*, *2763*, *2764*, *2765*, *2766*, *2767*, *2768*, *2769*, *2770*, *2771*, *2772*, *2773*, *2774*, *2775*, *2776*, *2777*, *2778*, *2779*, *2780*, *2781*, *2782*, *2783*, *2784*, *2785*, *2786*, *2787*, *2788*, *2789*, *2790*, *2791*, *2792*, *2793*, *2794*, *2795*, *2796*, *2797*, *2798*, *2799*, *2800*, *2801*, *2802*, *2803*, *2804*, *2805*, *2806*, *2807*, *2808*, *2809*, *2810*, *2811*, *2812*, *2813*, *2814*, *2815*, *2816*, *2817*, *2818*, *2819*, *2820*, *2821*, *2822*, *2823*, *2824*, *2825*, *2826*, *2827*, *2828*, *2829*, *2830*, *2831*, *2832*, *2833*, *2834*, *2835*, *2836*, *2837*, *2838*, *2839*, *2840*, *2841*, *2842*, *2843*, *2844*, *2845*, *2846*, *2847*, *2848*, *2849*, *2850*, *2851*, *2852*, *2853*, *2854*, *2855*, *2856*, *2857*, *2858*, *2859*, *2860*, *2861*, *2862*, *2863*, *2864*, *2865*, *2866*, *2867*, *2868*, *2869*, *2870*, *2871*, *2872*, *2873*, *2874*, *2875*, *2876*, *2877*, *2878*, *2879*, *2880*, *2881*, *2882*, *2883*, *2884*, *2885*, *2886*, *2887*, *2888*, *2889*, *2890*, *2891*, *2892*, *2893*, *2894*, *2895*, *2896*, *2897*, *2898*, *2899*, *2900*, *2901*, *2902*, *2903*, *2904*, *2905*, *2906*, *2907*, *2908*, *2909*, *2910*, *2911*, *2912*, *2913*, *2914*, *2915*, *2916*, *2917*, *2918*, *2919*, *2920*, *2921*, *2922*, *2923*, *2924*, *2925*, *2926*, *2927*, *2928*, *2929*, *2930*, *2931*, *2932*, *2933*, *2934*, *2935*, *2936*, *2937*, *2938*, *2939*, *2940*, *2941*, *2942*, *2943*, *2944*,

On the records of publications of marriage I find the following: "The Intentions of Marriage between Robert Treat Paine, Esq. of Taunton, and Miss Sally Cobb of Attleborough were entered the 3d day of March, 1770." It is a great honor to have any special connection with the Declaration of Independence, and our town may claim with pride that one of its signers married his wife here, though she was only an adopted daughter.

No special record of this wedding comes to us beyond the fact that it was attended by Rev. Mr. Thacher, but it surely must have been quite as brilliant as its predecessor and have had fully as long a line of distinguished guests.

The celebrated groom, learned jurist, eminent judge, and patriotic statesman in the trying days of the Revolution, was the son of Rev. Thomas Paine, minister of Weymouth. His mother was a daughter of Samuel Treat, of Connecticut. He was born in Boston, March 11, 1731, and graduated at Harvard College in 1749. He at first studied theology and fitted for the ministry and in 1755 was a chaplain in the army. He visited Europe subsequently on some mercantile enterprise and on his return to Boston studied law. About 1759 he removed to Taunton and there commenced the practice of this profession, in which he became eminent. In 1770 he acted for the attorney-general in the famous trial of Captain Preston for the Boston Massacre of the 5th of March. He was chosen a delegate to the Continental Congress, which convened September 5, 1774, and later he was one of the grand men whose signatures on the glorious Declaration of Independence are our pride and boast. In 1775, after the adoption of the Constitution of Massachusetts, he was appointed the first attorney-general of this State. He was superseded in 1776, but again appointed in 1780, and held the office until 1790. He was a judge of the Superior Court of this State from 1790 till 1804, when he resigned on account of deafness. In 1780 he removed to Boston, where he continued to reside until his death, which occurred May 11, 1814, when he had reached the age of eighty-three. His administration of justice was rigid, but just, and his manner on the bench rather stern and severe, but he was a man of strict, sterling uprightness. By his talents, integrity, and learning, he rendered good service to his country in the high offices he held and in the various lofty stations he occupied.

The author does not know the exact date of the removal of the Cobb family from town, but probably the father went to Taunton shortly subsequent to 1770. The next purchaser of the bloomery was a Mr. Robinson, who continued the works for a time and then converted them to the ancient purpose, that of a saw and grist mill. In the early part of the present century the manufacture at present carried on at this spot was commenced, and of the old "Bloomery" and "Chapel" nothing remains. The walls of the old house in its days of glory witnessed many a social assembly, many an elegant entertainment; many distinguished visitors sat around its hospitable board, many honored friends of high and low degree have gathered there, for its

ding wood (one wide room) and on the opposite side the distended corner of a new addition from the factory within. The picture well represents the house when it had been reduced to a common tenement and its ancient beauty and home had vanished. It was burned in 1840 or 1850 or thereabouts and then passed out of sight forever, disappearing itself among the host of things that have been. All is now changed here to this pretty spot and nothing is left to remind us of this long-ago time. The busy thrives and the line of heated iron has given place to the tranquil water-wheel and the clatter of shuttle and loom, and the fine old mansion with its charming occupants at noon, its vast emptiness but a passing shadowy possibility.

Quite as striking as the changes about the site of the old iron works are those which have taken place in the East village and its vicinity since the early part of this century. At that time the Ingraham house stood on the corner now occupied by the residence of the late Charles E. Hayward and was moved back toward the river to its present site, to make room for that residence. There was no other dwelling-house on that side of the road between it and the present centre of the village. About where Dr. Bronson's house now stands there was a small grocery store, kept by Amos Walton, and just above there was a blacksmith's shop. The grocery was moved away to make room for Squier Bolkeon's house, the first dwelling-house on that corner. It was built very near if not exactly upon the site of the one now there, and Orville Bolkeon lived in it for some time and up to 1850, when it was burned down. Probably the next house built on that side of the road was the building so long and so probably conspicuous, standing near the middle of Mr. Pierce, one behind Council's Block. Opposite Bolkeon's was the Gideon Sweet house, which stood there until quite recently and was moved away to give place to the new one. It was used for a tavern, but was never used as such. The bar, however, was left in its place until the Rev. Mr. Crane became the occupant of the house and had it removed. The then owner of this property was Mr. Sanford, the father-in-law of Mr. Crane. Later Mr. Jonathan Bliss owned it; his heirs retained it for some time after his death, and finally, after passing through other hands, it passed into those of the present owner, Mr. Bates.

The pretty pattern South Main Street and Railroad Avenue, now occupied by Horton and Pierce blocks and various small buildings, was very early owned by one Jonas Richardson, a physician, then by Abijah Everett, also a physician, who practiced in the vicinity for a number of years. He sold to Jabez Ellis, and he in turn to Amos Wilmarth, and not very long afterwards (probably the same time from the death of Council's Block) was kept a much longer period for a number of years. It was pretty generally known

as a place of amusement. A hall was built during Colonel Bolkeon's occupation, which was used for various purposes, balls, singing schools, lyceums, society meetings, etc. This was the only public hall in this part of the town where the young and gay of a past generation were taught the graces of dancing under the inspiring strains of Obed Robinson's violin. This, too, was the principal courtroom of that day, where civil and criminal cases were tried. Sheriff's juries were more common in that day. Many of the distinguished advocates of a past generation have appeared in that hall. The voices of William Baylies, Judge Wheaton, of Norton, Judge Warren, of New Bedford, Cushman, of Pawtucket, and other lawyers of the day, have been heard there. The riot which occurred during the construction of the railroad has been referred to, when the Washington Rifle Company, under Captain Holman, turned out. This was done under the direction of Sheriff Sweet. The warrant was executed in Canton, and twelve or fifteen of the rioters were arrested and brought to this town for their trial, which doubtless took place in Bolkeon's Hall, and a number of the most active in the riot were *bound over*—committed to Taunton jail to appear before the Grand Jury. Colonel Bolkeon was a widely known man in his day. He was social and generous. He was kind to the poor and did many friendly deeds. It is said that particularly fat and tender turkeys frequently found their way from his larder to the minister's kitchen. He was a man of considerable ability, and for three years consecutively, 1811, 1812, and 1813, he represented the town in the General Court. A small portion of his famous old inn still remains near the western corner of the lot on which it stood, a part of the house so long occupied by Dr. Sanford.

To the east of the property just mentioned was quite early the house known later as the Hodges house. This was built by Betsy Hicks, and in it she kept a beer and cigar shop, and beyond this still was a blacksmith's shop, at one time kept by Colonel Bolkeon, who also at one time owned a small machine shop which stood on the present site of the Wolfenden Dye Works. On the north side of the road where Briggs' Block now is, there stood a small building containing a harness and a tailor's shop; and where the church now stands, on a part of the "meeting-house lot," was the Franklin schoolhouse, "a little old fashioned building painted yellow." Crossing the common halfway, one came to the first church building, with its attendant row of horse sheds and its even then ancient horse block, round which, in its day, we may be certain the manly youths did congregate whenever pretty riders approached to dismount. Beyond the common one came to the Holman house. Seventy years ago these mentioned were probably all or very nearly all of the buildings in the village, but gradually and continually they have increased until now through the centre almost every foot of land is occupied. Deacon Wales' house and blacksmith's shop on County Street have long been one of the landmarks, and the house where Mr. Joseph

Capton lives has been but sixty-five years, and hardly as long ago the schoolhouse gave its place to the church.

At one time Olin Capton and Capton Peck owned thirty acres in the centre of the village, that upon which Horton Brook stands and from there on south to the Jesse Carpenter farm. They sold off some of this to the River and House Company, who built a shop on it for use during the construction of the railroad, which was later burned down. The house on Essex Street (now occupied by Nathan C. Taffner) was next used for a boarding-house for the men who then worked on the railroad. This same company owned what was called the Temperance Hotel. The members were Jonathan Bliss, N. W. Squibb, and Daniel Carpenter. They owned the Brook building, now a part of Park Hotel, and they also formed the original Steam Power Company. Afterward Leonard Sweet and Vernal Capton bought the portion of their property held under that name. The old Bolcom tavern passed into many different hands. After Colonel Bolcom, Moses Richardson became its owner, then Moses Wilmarth. It was also at one time the property of Jonathan Bliss & Co., of Lyman W. Dean, and lastly of Dr. Edward Sanford, who left it a few years since to occupy his new residence across the street.

About where the Murray Church now stands stood at one time a house known as the Cheney house, and quite a distance farther south was the Daniel Carpenter home, which is still owned and occupied by some of his descendants bearing the same name. On this same side of South Main Street a large amount of land was for many years owned by Leprilote Sweet. His farm was well conducted and he was a prosperous man. He was a large cranberry grower and was the first farmer in town to introduce the process of making cranberry land and of especially cultivating the fruit in that way. Previously the cranberry meadows had been pretty much left to themselves, little assistance having been given to nature. Mr. Sweet was very successful with this new process as Mr. Alger has since been so signally. Opposite Mr. Sweet's was the Jesse R. Carpenter farm, under his care a model of thrift and neatness. He for many years had a large butchering establishment on the place. In the house until within a few years the old brick oven was regularly if not exclusively used, and cheese at least sufficient for family and for sale. There were three large barns, very much used and well cared for, and many other buildings, which have since been sold and built upon. They are now a part of the village.

Leaving the village and passing up North Main Street, at the southern end of which we write there was not a single dwelling on the right-hand side of the road between the centre and "Bluffy" corner. The corner of a new city house and a store was built on that side — the Pardon Bailey house, and probably the first erected — which was known later as the Carpenter house, later entirely remodeled as the Rodolphus Bliss house, and is now the property and residence of Dr. James M. Sedgwick. In the yard attached to this

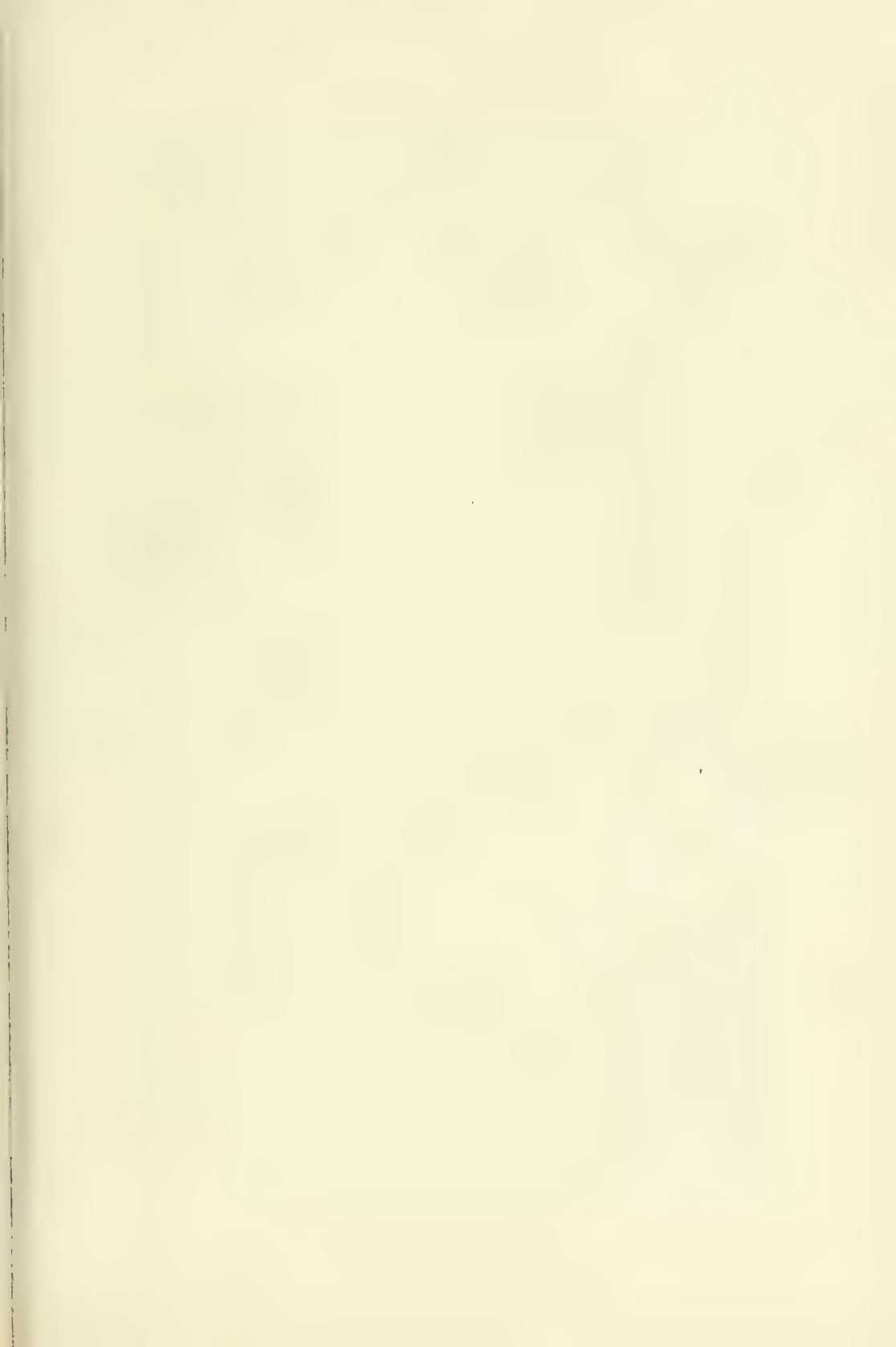
house stood a little shop occupied by one Edmund Barney, and it is said this was the first place where jewelry was ever made in the East village. About half a mile from "Bolcom's corner," on the same side with the Ingraham house was an old house with a gambrel roof, which we find there still, standing where it has stood these scores upon scores of years, its right to retain possession of its ancient site almost disputed by the Branch Railroad, which crosses the street here nearly grazing one corner, and which did totally demolish the little unpainted building on the opposite side where Polly Woodcock, something of a "character" and a terror to many a small child, lived a long time. "Polly's" house was called "the shop," for it was built as such, and it is said that the first power loom in the country was built in it.

This is not the original Peck house but was bought and moved here, exactly when is not known, but doubtless much more than a hundred years ago. The first house stood, it is thought, a little nearer the pond, just about where the track was laid west of the present one, that position being indicated from the old well as found by the railroad company. That older house was attached to the L. of the present one at right angles, running south, and remained until a few years ago. It was long used as a wash house, and in it years ago were kept the great meal bins and the ponderous looms. It must have been built by Hezekiah Peck, the first of this town, who settled here soon after 1700.

The founder of this family in this country came here in 1638 and settled in Hingham, this State. He with others fled from persecution, bringing their pastor, Robert Peck, his brother, with them. The town clerk of Hingham speaking of this Mr. Peck says: "Mr. Joseph Peck, and his wife, with three sons and daughter, and two men servants, and three maid servants, came from Old Hingham, and settled at New Hingham." They came over in the ship *Diligent*, of Ipswich. Mr. Peck was of that class called gentry in England, whose rank is next to that of baronet, and they are entitled to coat armor, etc. His fifth child, Nicholas, settled in Seekonk — or Rehoboth — and became a man of great prominence there. He was one of the original proprietors of the Rehoboth North Purchase and his name is frequently found on the early records, is often mentioned in this book. By his will, dated October 2, 1707, and "in the sixth year of her Majestic's Reign," he gives to his son Hezekiah his "sixth allotment drawn in the Rehoboth North purchased lands which appears by record," etc. The father died in 1710, and it would seem that he antedated his will in regard to this land and gave it to his son before his death, for there is a record showing that on December 23, 170—, this Hezekiah had land laid out to him in payment of land taken from his lot for a road. This road is the Boston Road or the "East Bay Road," of which North Main Street is a part, and it seems safe to conclude that the "sixth allotment" above mentioned must have included the present Peck lands on both sides of that street. Hezekiah sold his lands in Rehoboth (or Seekonk) in 1705 and removed to Swansea, where he lived for a time, and

then given to the town and, according to the records kept before 1710. In 1710 some lands were laid out to John on Bagnay place. December 25, 1721, a survey place was laid out to John Peck that the South West end of great Bagnay meadows at Bosc a small piece of land lying in a three square corner bounded Northward Peck's own land and on Coopers Southward and Abraham Coopers on the East side. In 1733 one John Peck came into possession of lands laid out on the east side of the river and the northern and easterly bounds of one of these lots are described as the "Land of the Heirs of Hancock, Peck, Deane and DeCoursey in the South West Corner of the old Home lot of Sd Hezekiah Peck," and another boundary mentioned is land of John Sweet. This would probably be in the vicinity of what is now Medford, those of that name having only owned lands there.

Hezekiah married Deborah Cooper and they had eight children. Of these Hezekiah was fourth and the oldest son. He married Elizabeth Carder and remained on the home place. He died in 1753 and was buried near his father and mother in the family burying ground. He had ten children, and it may naturally be conjectured that he found the old house rather too contracted for his large family to grow in and that he purchased the present house, adding it to his former dwelling. If this conjecture is true, then it has occupied its present position over a hundred and fifty years. Hezekiah, third child and oldest son of the above, followed in his father's footsteps and remained at home. He married Ann Skinner, of Mansfield, and they had four children. Of these Jonathan was the third son and youngest child. He remained on the homestead and became a highly respected man and prominent in the public affairs of his community. His wife was Sabra Capron. They had four sons, but all died young excepting the oldest, Capron, who resided all his life in town, though only a portion of it in the old home. He was connected with the cotton factory at the Falls at one time and lived in the house now occupied by H. N. Daggett, and the little hill back of it is called from him "Peck's mountain." He at length purchased the house on the corner of North Main and Sanford streets, which was built by Dr. Savery, and resided there for many years until his death. He married Lydia Daggett, sister of the author of this book, and they had twelve children. Of this large family only four lived to maturity, three daughters — Sabra, Sally, and Lydia — and one son, Jonathan. He was born in this town November 25, 1829. His early life was spent chiefly at home, but during the Civil War he was in the employ of the government at various places. His subsequent life was passed chiefly at the South and West, the choice of localities being partially on account of his health, which rendered it necessary for him to avoid the rigors of a New England climate, for many years of his life were a fight with that dreadful disease so often termed our "curse." He latterly became interested in some ranches at the far West and in cattle raising. He married and had two children. The elder, a son, died at the age of three; the





1. Front View of Hall, 2. Hall from East, 3. Hall from West, 4. Hall from North, 5. Hall from South, 6. Hall from East, 7. Hall from West.

younger, Mary Lydia Peck, is living in Ohio. Mr. Peck died while on a visit to his home, September 21, 1881, the last male member of the family.

Mr. Capron Peck and his wife, as is rarely the case, lived to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding. A house full of relatives and friends met in their pleasant home to greet and congratulate them on that happy occasion—in June, 1874—the last anniversary, as it proved, of their married life. During his long residence in the East village Mr. Peck was active and prominent in church and parish affairs and in those of the community, and he held various local offices. He died September 7, 1874, aged seventy-seven years, seven months, and three days, and Mrs. Peck died February 2, 1882, aged seventy-nine years, three months, and sixteen days.

Her death was the ending of a life full of years and “full of good works and alms deeds which she did.” Her days were occupied with the homely cares, the homely duties of life, for her deepest feelings were centred in her family; but the whole community surrounding her was her “neighbor,” and she dwelt in it not to be ministered unto but to minister to others in their times of need. How many kind words she said! How many kind acts she performed! How many wearisome burdens she helped troubled souls to bear! Never too busy, never too tired to respond to calls for aid, during many years she went again and again to the bedside of sickness and to the chamber of death. Her charity was the purest the world ever knows, for in giving it she gave of herself. How much pain she lessened, how much grief she soothed, how many aching hearts she comforted, how many times her willing feet crossed the threshold of stricken homes carrying consolation and hope, will never be known until the Book of Life gives up its hidden records by-and-by. Sweet, gentle, motherly, all who knew her loved her, young or old. Unselfish and loving in her nature, she was forgetful of self and mindful of others. She did her every duty quietly, she bore her every sorrow silently; when these were all done and the last blow of bereavement decreed had fallen upon her aged head, one by one the loosened cords binding her to earth gave way, and soon with her usual gentle calmness she passed on to the other world. In the best sense of the word “Aunt” Peck was a good woman. Such a Christian life as hers is a blessing to the community in which it is lived, and its influence is felt in ways we wot not of and to far wider bounds than she in her modest humility ever dreamed, because such helpful deeds as she so often did are those little things which go to make up the great sum total of effort for the good of needy humanity, and each one whether known or unknown is a benefit to the world.

There are very few, if any, other cases in town where any portions of the original allotments of the proprietors of the North Purchase have been retained in the same family and under the same name up to the present time, as appears conclusively to be the case with some of this old Peck farm. A part of this land must have come into the possession of Ensign Nicholas Peck over two

Banfield Court may find six generations of his descendants and name have survived the same spot. Though it may not be to be hoped that it will remain in the family for many generations to come, in the natural order of events its ownership must during the days of the coming generation be vested in another name, since no male descendant of the line which has owned it as long survives. Scarcely one ancient homesteads pass away, and in one or two one old and once numerous families are becoming extinct within our borders.

The post office, where the stage horse has stood on the way of Philip Brady's residence at the intersection of West with North Main Street, and about two miles north on the latter street—formerly the "Old Bay Road," now frequently named the "New Boston Road"—the old Druggist house still stands. This was built about 1721 and was used as an inn in the days of stages over this post road. Its old sign is still in existence. Scattered here and there over the eastern part of the town there are still other ancient dwellings, but here as elsewhere they are fast disappearing.

Banfield Capron once owned a great amount of land in this part of the town, the saying in regard to him being that he bought "all the land between Bungay river and the Falls." This saying must be somewhat discounted, but that he owned very large tracts of land is well known. According to the settled account when Jacob Druggitt lived on the Bay Road—now one of his granddaughters, Diodema Capron, who married a Barrows, lived in a house which stood in an open space on the south side of the mill road near where it crosses the New Boston Road. Besides those lands which he bought, Mr. Capron had the Callender lands from his wife. Some of these were, it is said, on the south side of the river, but the Callender house stood where Mr. Brady's now stands. One of his descendants—probably Joseph Capron, Jr., a grandson, and the grandfather of Joseph W. Capron—built the house long occupied by the late Deacon Joseph M. Newcomb, and that portion of the original lands has been in the family for over two hundred years, for Mrs. Newcomb was a descendant of Banfield Capron. Five generations have occupied the place. The land purchased by Jonathan and George Bliss at the Farmers was a portion of the Capron farm, and a part near by is now owned and occupied by descendants of the family of the late Samuel E. Capron. (This portion has come from park.)

Among the families which came to this town early was that of Blount, several members of it having come from Salem in 1703. One of the brothers was Joseph, elsewhere named, and his son Zephaniah married Sarah Stone, granddaughter of Rev. Samuel Newman, the first minister of Rehoboth. His farm was near the easterly line of the town, running to the Charley Brook, and in 1766 he built the house which still remains on it. He had eleven children. Members of this family were prominent in town affairs during the Revolution and a number were in active service. The names of at least six different ones may be found in the lists of volunteers from the town at that

time, and one or two were in more than one expedition. Two were taken prisoners. One of these, Zepheniah, above mentioned, died on board the prison ship *Jersey*, off New York harbor; and the other, Hezekiah, lived to be paroled. On the Bishop farm many guns were forged which acted their part in the war for Independence. Zepheniah the second kept the Bishop tavern on the old turnpike, a relay house, and of course a place of "refreshment for man and beast." One Dexter Bishop, who lived in the east part of the town, attained the very advanced age of ninety-six years. He was born in 1780, while the guns of the Revolution were still sounding; and on the day when Fort Sumter was fired upon he, still strong and vigorous at the age of eighty-one, was in the woods, felling trees and hewing timber for sleepers for the Boston and Providence Railroad. His youthful companion and assistant on that day was a grandson, Robert H. Kirk, a skilled carpenter and millwright, who lives in Pawtucket. He has charge of several important public works, among them the dam connected with the city water works. Another grandchild is Mrs. A. F. Lee, of this town. The third Zepheniah Bishop lives near the old homestead.

Another old house is the one owned and occupied by Jacob Briggs at the time of his death. It is supposed to have been built by Caleb Parmenter, who is known to have lived there as early as 1718. Three brothers of that name came to this country and Caleb settled in this town. His wife, Elizabeth, was one of the original members of the Second Congregational Church. In those early days bears frequently came out of the swamp not far from that house, and upon a certain occasion one of them must have ventured too near to suit the comfort or safety of Mrs. Parmenter, so taking down the gun from the ceiling hooks, where guns then rested, she shot him from one of the west windows. Caleb Parmenter, Jr., at the age of eighteen, enlisted in the Revolutionary army and was in the battles of Lexington and Bunker Hill. He married Elizabeth Rounds, a daughter of Nathaniel Rounds, a Baptist clergyman, who lived in South Rehoboth and who subsequently came to this town and bought the farm known to this generation as the Zenas Carpenter farm. Tradition says that he entertained Whitfield at his home here and that a religious service was held under those grand old elms. Mr. Parmenter was promoted to the rank of captain, and the title was given to him during his entire life. He built the house where Horatio Parmenter now lives and lived there for many years. He and his wife lived together over seventy-two years and attained the remarkable ages of ninety-four and ninety-six years, respectively.

The transformation which has taken place in the North village is quite as astonishing as that of the East village. Starting at "Hatch's" some seventy years ago and walking down on the west side of the road, now Washington Street, one came at once upon a part of the old Garrison house. This yet clings to the spot and looks strong and steady enough to defy old Time himself for many years to come. It is the quaint, comfortable home of

"Aunt" Cynthia Hatch? Next in the early days came the Church, which was there where the schoolhouse now is; next was "Grandpa" Tully's house; and next William Blackinton's, on the site of William D. Waring's father's residence. This old house stands directly back of its former site on Broad Street. The next house in order was Ellis Blackinton's on St. Mary's, or the "Orange house" lot, and still farther south stood Leonard Blackinton's, next the spot occupied by Earl William's street, and then came the dwelling-house at Samuel Grant, next to where Charles Black's is now. The only other house on the west side was the "long house," then owned by Preston Draper. It had been a hotel and subsequently was burned down. About opposite this point on the east side of the way was "Brimstone Corner," as it was formerly called. What gave rise to this name we cannot positively say, possibly the fiery quality of the children's papers sold on the spot or the heated tone of the discussions, no doubt frequently held there, may have had something to do with it. On this corner stood the long, low structure known as the Union House, built by Richard Robinson. It was a social gathering-place from far and near and its "dances" were much talked of. It was the rendezvous for the men of its time who enjoyed "club" life, and many tales have been told of those days of sociability, and many amusing stories are current of the "ironies" of the village who were wont to congregate within its walls. The tavern was much frequented, but not before it had acquired a reputation quite as famous in a kindred way as that of "Bolkeom's." The tavern has given place to the hotel, and now the Wamsutta House occupies this spot, and the long, low structure's place is many times filled by a handsome, high, modern block.

Going north from here the first house was Parnell Fisher's, the same now owned by Silas Aldrich; then came the old parsonage, the house long lived in by "Ma" Day and in which she died. There were one or two stores along the road, and the building in which one of these was kept by "Parson" Forbush now stands on the top of Watery Hill. One Benjamin Chandler had a little store here at one time where, it is said, "everything was sold." His house was not far from the church, and probably the store was near by. Josiah Draper's house stood near Hatch's "or little beyond," and "Uncle" Sam Draper's "was near the river and stood until recently." To the west on Watery Hill Street (100 north of the well-known corner) the space now so thickly studded with handsome places and comfortable houses at the period at which we write was a back-sloping pasture, rough and full of shrubs. Now the only unoccupied land on the street is the triangle in front of the Baptist Church and belonging to it.

A few relics of the palmy days of the Hatch House yet remain. An enormous 100 foot handsome red-brick block, its base dark and stained

with the mellow tints of time, still ticks out the hours in a solemn and dignified manner, as befits a timepiece of its age and experience, for it has stood before exalted personages, and impressive scenes have passed before its view. It was made in England, but by whom is not apparent, the only name upon it being that of a Boston dealer, from whom probably Colonel Hatch purchased it. Its ancient comrade, the great sideboard, still keeps it company, like it, of two shades of real mahogany and having the "tone" which only ripened years are able to bestow. It is very large and has space sufficient to hold all the flasks and decanters which even a hotel dining-room of a century ago might require. It is withal sideboard and writing-desk combined, has its row of pigeon-holes and small drawers, with sliding writing lid below. It was here the mail was kept when Colonel Hatch was postmaster, and the present owner, his granddaughter, not long since accidentally discovered a secret drawer and within it a copy of a Boston newspaper for 1800, with wrapper and address intact. The person to whom it had been sent having never called for it, it had probably been put in that inner drawer for safe keeping and been forgotten, and there it had lain undisturbed for eighty-seven years. The silver stirrups and brass epaulets which Colonel Hatch wore in the War of 1812 and the silver eagle ornament for his horse's breastplate hang by the side of the old hotel sign, while an aged chair and the posts of an ancient bedstead look down upon these from their loftier perches on the opposite wall of the shed, for a lowly roof now protects them. Would they had the powers of speech to recount the history of the days when they were young!

No doubt they all witnessed the occurrences of a certain bright June morning some seventy years ago. A great crowd had gathered about the hotel, sure sign that something unusual was looked for, and presently a fine barouche, drawn by four handsome steeds and "preceded by mounted and uniformed marshals," drove up in dashing style. Of the occupants, one in Continental costume — cocked hat, swallow-tailed coat, short breeches, low shoes, with shining buckles on knee and foot, and lace ruffles falling gracefully over shirt front and hand — received special and marked attention. He was James Monroe, President of these United States, who was making a tour of the middle and eastern States. He was to dine at "Polley's," but halted at the "Steam Boat Hotel" for some light "refreshment." No doubt this consisted of crackers, cheese, and Jamaica rum, and with as little doubt these were of excellent quality. We can imagine with what alacrity and pleasure the model host himself served his illustrious guest, and how proudly the gay sign swayed itself in the breezes of that ever memorable day.

Early in this century a second and rival line of stages was established, and then there were busy times at the hostelrys when the fresh relays of horses were brought out, and great were the contests between the hostlers at all these different inns along the route, as to which of them should make the

political situation, thus crossing the least delay and helping to make the running time shorter for their respective countries.

The old pike road was built in 1802, by an incorporated stage company called the Norfolk and Bristol Turnpike Company. The incorporators were Ephraim Stockweather, Oliver S. and Omer Watkins, Eliphalet Stock, Samuel S. and William Blackinton, Israel Haton, Elisha Duggitt, Joseph Holmes, Fisher Ames, James Richardson, John and Timothy Whiting, and Timothy Gay, Jr. It began at the courthouse in Dedham and ran to North Attleborough (meetinghouse), then to Pawtucket bridge and Providence. It was supposed to be "as fast as any horse." It was then (this side of the way, at least) "as fast as any horse." There were two toll gates in this town. The running time between Boston and Providence was six hours. Fully seven miles an hour including stops¹ was not slow travel for the four or six horses, though the single "iron horse" can cover the ground nowadays in one sixth of the time.

In the early days, however, there were swifter ways of transmitting messages of importance than by the stages themselves, though electricity had not then as now anything to do with the methods used. Perhaps we have not after all advanced in some ways quite as much as we are prone to think, for, with no steam and no electric fire save that which sparkled in the breasts of stout determined men and through them excited to their utmost exertion willing intelligent steeds, President Jackson's message was "brought through by express riders from Providence to Boston in 2 hours and 45 minutes. It was lashed around a whip handle, thrown from the boat to a rider, who rode away to ride alongside a waiting rider a few miles on the pike; the burden being exchanged at full speed of both horses."² One of those riders (some say the best), supposing that must have died though one town over the old pike road, leaving behind him a wake of mysterious wondering (some say), like that caused by a solitary eagle flapping by on the iron road. This was the true, the admirable American enterprise, which then, now, and ever overcomes all obstacles and, by taking or making means, attains signal success and compasses its desired ends.

It was once necessary for Rehoboth people, if they were called upon to go to Boston, to ride up to Hatch's on horseback and there take the stage; and it is told of Colonel Frederic Drown, of that town, a representative to the General Court, that he used to take his young daughter behind him on his horse, that she might ride the animal back home, a journey for her of over thirty miles and for the most part of extreme loneliness. In Revolutionary days the women often molded the bullets taken by their husbands and sons

¹ The stage was usually pulled by four horses, but sometimes by six. The stage was usually pulled by four horses, but sometimes by six. The stage was usually pulled by four horses, but sometimes by six.

² The stage was usually pulled by four horses, but sometimes by six. The stage was usually pulled by four horses, but sometimes by six.

when they were called into service, for they were obliged to engage in many occupations in those "days that tried men's souls." The ordinary cabinet-makers of those times were frequently coffin-makers also, and their wives kept "mourning" to let or to lend on funeral occasions. Such was the case with the Colonel Drown above mentioned and his wife, and very probably they may have supplied wants of that kind in this town.

It was the custom among our ancestors before matches were invented, if the kitchen hearth fire burned entirely out, for some member of the family to take a tin lantern and go to a neighbor's in search of the necessary coals to relight it; perhaps in long-forgotten corners of some of the old garrets in town such lanterns may yet be hidden away. The great kitchen fire was in common the only one in the house, the "best parlor" being used only upon occasions of unusual ceremony. Those who are accustomed only to the luxurious steam-heated, brilliantly lighted houses of to-day can scarcely imagine what the temperature of the dwellings of our fathers was or realize the dim twilight which pervaded their "living-rooms" after nightfall. Some are still living who remember when outside doors were never locked, even at night. One of our townsmen says it was the invariable custom of his father's house when he was a young man to leave all doors unbolted, and often, on returning late from some social gathering, he has found his room occupied by a friend, who, feeling too tired to take the longer walk necessary to reach his own home and knowing the ways of the house, had entered after the family had retired and helped himself to lodgings, sure of a welcome. The frequent robberies which have taken place in recent years, in spite of bolts and bars, attest that great changes have taken place in the entire social structure, even in the very neighborhood where this citizen then lived.

At one time mails were brought to this town from Taunton on horseback, and the post rider bestowed "the news" verbally upon whomsoever he met on his way. Mr. Joseph Capron relates that one day between seventy-five and eighty years ago he started for Taunton with his father, with a load of hay or produce. They met the mail-carrier on the way, who announced to them that war with Great Britain had been declared. He rode on to spread the terrible tidings, and the others pursued their journey, but the dire forebodings of all dreadful calamities and the terrible personal fright the boy experienced that day have never been forgotten; as he, now grown old, expresses it: "I have n't got over it yet." To other parts of the town the same announcement must have come over the old turnpike to Hatch's.

There were a number of our citizens who enlisted in the War of 1812, and, as we have seen, the militia companies were called out once or twice; but there are only a very few unsatisfactory records to be found, and tradition has preserved but little to enlighten us regarding the small amount of service which it fell to the town to render. One John Dunham was killed, but accidentally. He was with his company at Fairhaven. Drill was just over and

some man was shooting a gun, which went off, and the bullet passed through the wall into an adjoining room, killing Danison, who was sitting there. A man in the name of Jones enlisted here. He was not a native of this town, "but was courting a girl here." He subsequently deserted, was caught, and suffered the penalty of the law. We are glad he was not an Atholborough man. These are the only incidents we have been able to gather together, besides the references made elsewhere to those who served in this war, in personal recollections, etc.

The mill built by Ingraham & Richardson at Mendonces had not been long finished when, early in 1813, the news came that the treaty of Ghent had been signed and peace declared, and the mill and Mr. Ingraham's house were joyfully illuminated in honor of this event. Deacon Peter Thacher used to cart goods for this firm to and from New York—a week's trip each way with oxen, though later with morses he could accomplish the journey in somewhat shorter time. Now the same number of hours as the oxen required days is sufficient to enable a traveler to go from one place to the other.

As has been stated, Israel Hatch was the first postmaster in town, and the people from all parts for a considerable time went to his tavern for their mail. Before an office was established in East Atholborough, someone from that village rode up on horseback to the "North" town weekly for such mail matter as might be waiting there, and among others Mr. Joseph Capron frequently did this. Now the town has eight or nine mails daily, and by the present generation, though continents intervene or oceans roll between, news, even from the antipodes, which is two weeks old, is considered "stale and impracticable." The first "post route" established between Boston and New York was as early as 1794. It passed through this town, and the postman at that time doubtless left what few communications there might be for persons of this vicinity at Woodcock's Ordinary. Messages relating to business or other matters were, if of sufficient importance, sent by special carrier; but great events only called for the writing of letters in those days, especially to people living far away from the towns.

In 1789 Israel Hatch was first appointed postmaster, and he received two subsequent appointments, one in 1805 and another in 1809. How long he retained the office could not be positively ascertained, but it seems probable up to the time of his death, in 1817, for no one recalls another postmaster until that date, when, under President Van Buren's administration, Herbert Draper was appointed. His successor, under Harrison and Tyler, was Albert Barrows, and his successor, under Polk, in 1845, was H. M. Richards. James Taylor and Fillmore, in 1847, W. D. Cotton received the appointment, and under Pierce and also Buchanan, from 1853 to 1861, J. D. Richards held the office. F. R. Jones was appointed under Lincoln, and retained the position for more than twenty years, through the administrations of Johnson, Grant, Hayes, Garfield and Arthur. He was thoroughly efficient and filled

the place with entire acceptance to the general community. About a year before the expiration of President Arthur's term Mr. Jones resigned and B. Porter, Jr., was appointed his successor for four years. His term expired May 1, 1888, and J. D. Richards became his successor, the first postmaster appointed in the *town* of North Attleborough. The present quarters of this postoffice in Wamsutta Block are commodious and in a situation convenient to everybody in the village. It is both a registry and money order office and the salary attached amounts to about \$1,800 a year.

About 1820 the first postmaster for "East Attleborough"¹ was appointed. Ezra Bassett was the appointee, and he kept the mail in a little office building adjoining the Gideon Sweet house. This was brought to him by the stages running then between Taunton and Providence. He held the position only a few months. Rev. Nathan Holman was next appointed, probably about 1821, and had charge for six years. Samuel Holman attended to the mails, which were kept in a table drawer for distribution. The third appointment was given to Orville Bolkeom, and he had the mail in the tavern probably. One informant says that Bassett kept the mail in Squire Bolkeom's house instead of in his own office, but more probably it was Bolkeom who first kept it there — his father's house — and later he may have transferred it to the tavern. Succeeding him was Colonel Willard Blackinton, who was efficient in this, as in whatever he undertook. He was appointed not much later than 1830 and retained the office several years, until 1836, when Lyman W. Dean took it. The mails still continued to be kept in the tavern, then owned by Mr. Dean. He made various alterations and improvements and introduced boxes for the first time. He also obtained the right to carry the mails to North and West Attleborough after the construction of the railroad, and the postal matter came chiefly by its means. Mr. Dean continued through the terms of Van Buren, Harrison, Polk, and Taylor, and for about four months under Fillmore. Then, in 1850, Nathan C. Luther received the appointment.

Previous to this time the office, fixtures, etc., had been removed to Dean's Hotel, now, enlarged, Park Hotel. This was then the "Bank Building," as it was called, it having been originally erected for the old Attleborough Bank, but after that was removed to North Attleborough its use as such was no longer required. Before its removal the postoffice was in the parlor on the left of the entrance, which was then in the centre of the end toward Park Street, and the rooms of the bank on the right. These afterwards became the postoffice. Mr. Luther resided in the building, occupying a tenement in the upper part of the house, and Mr. Godfrey Wheelock, a well-known

¹ This name, it is said, never properly belonged to the village, though it has long been familiarly so called. It was too often called the "Preetinet" or the "East Preetinet," but how the first postmaster's commission read has not been ascertained. When the railroad station was built the place received the name of "Attleborough," largely through the instrumentality of the late John Daggett. He would prefer that simple name without any prefix.

center of the town for many years, lived below. A great many have no knowledge of this building as it was then, but it presented without imposing appearance to spectators eyes, with its tall fluted columns, as did the similar one on the rising ground above the road entering the village of North Attleborough, which has been permitted to retain much of its old time aspect in the midst of its modern surroundings. In 1850 Mr. Deane was disappointed and continued through the terms of Pierce and Richardson, somewhat turning his building into the hotel long known by his name and personally conducted by him. The postoffice remained here for a great many years. In 1861 Mr. Luther again assumed its duties and continued them in this place until 1873, when he built a small house near the foot of Bank Street especially for the business of the office, though the second story was arranged as a dwelling. In 1876 he removed the office to Smith Building, where the enlarged quarters necessary were obtained, and where for the first time lock boxes were introduced. Mr. Luther discharged his official duties in this position for twenty years to the satisfaction of everybody. In 1881 he resigned, and Abiel F. Wales was appointed in his place, and he in turn was succeeded by the present occupant of the office, Philip E. Brady, appointed in 1886. He has moved the establishment to Bates Opera House, where still larger space is occupied, and additional improvements in the way of fixtures, boxes, etc., have been made. This office is also a registry and money order one and its salary nearly the same as at North Attleborough (1884).

Until within a few years the postal facilities at the Falls were very limited. For a long time a small building stood by the roadside, opposite the residence of Mr. William Richardson, into which a bag was tossed from the passing stages. Whoever chose opened this, looked for his own letters and papers, and left the rest of the mail scattered about the floor, to be scattered again by anyone who happened along or who thought he wanted a letter; and the Falls stage proprietors did then find much better. For a number of years the mail there was kept in the "store," the building which stands facing the road from East Attleborough just where it turns toward the north (whose piazza, from resting very near the ground, makes its appearance somewhat singular). Here Randall Pierce took charge of such mail matter as came to his hands. Finally it was decided by the citizens of this community that a regular postoffice in their midst could not any longer be regarded as a matter of desirable convenience only, but that it had become a matter of urgent necessity; and Handel N. Daggett determined to get one established, if possible. With characteristic promptness he immediately started for Washington. He had an interview with one of our then Congressmen, Mr. Ames, who promised his assistance and made a special appointment in regard to making the presentation of the matter to the proper authorities. At the time named Mr. Daggett was at the place

designated, but not Mr. Ames, who forgot all about it. Mr. Daggett then sought out our Congressman from Fall River, Mr. James Burlington, who rendered him material assistance. He had taken neither a petition nor a map of the town or village with which to work, but in some way the Gordian knot was cut, and the ball of governmental red tape unwound so rapidly that "between the hours of twelve o'clock noon, and two o'clock in the afternoon," a postoffice was established at the "Falls village in Attleborough, Massachusetts," and the postmaster appointed. In the issue of the *Boston Evening Journal* for that same day an item appeared stating the fact of this establishment and announcing that Joseph J. Freeman was the new postmaster. The exact date of this remarkable transaction has not been ascertained, but it was probably not far from the time of the construction of the branch railroad in 1871. Henry W. Gleason was the successor of Mr. Freeman after a few years, and Will. N. Fisher followed him. His successor, and the present postmaster, is James B. Parsons.

Almost nothing could be obtained in the way of information regarding other offices and other postmasters in town, and the process of getting an accurate list from the Department at Washington would require so much time and labor that it was deemed unwise to make any attempt in that direction. One of the earliest to have the office at South Attleborough was Milton Barrows, who kept it in his "tavern," which stands yet, about three quarters of a mile south of the "city." The mere mention of this old house will call pleasant recollections of a social nature to the minds of not a few of the elders in various parts of the town; for when these same elders were young the sounds of the "fiddle" were most enticing, and they were often heard and merrily responded to in the great dancing-hall at "Barrows'." But no matter how many gathered there in those days when our old people were "boys and girls together," the accommodations were ample for all, and the kitchen and larder equal to every emergency. These country inns are almost all gone, but Barrows' and Newell's houses stay yet in their original places, little changed outwardly, to prove that the tales which have come down to us of "real good times" in "days of yore" are true.

Some few years since, the Department at Washington issued an order for all postoffices to keep an exact account of all the mails sent out during a specified week, and the statistics taken in our town were published in the *Chronicle*. They are the figures given by five offices, Dodgeville being excepted, and include the five classes of mail matter inclusive of postal cards — letters, papers, circulars, and merchandise being the four classes in order. The five offices sent out 4,191 letters, 1,100 postal cards, 809 pieces of second and third class matter, and 186 packages of fourth class matter, making a total of 6,286 pieces. North and East Attleborough offices had of course the largest figures, the latter 88 more letters and 50 more postals; while the former exceeded the latter in the other classes combined by 359

game, with a total excess of 221 pieces. If similar statistics could have been prepared for the present time, 1887, these figures would probably have been materially increased, though the general introduction of the telephone doubtless keeps the number of letters reduced, especially in the larger offices, as a great amount of business is transacted by its use. In no other way perhaps is the growth of the town shown more clearly than in the lines just mentioned—the great increase in the postal facilities demanded, and the almost universal adoption of all the modern means for promoting the prompt and easy conduct of business affairs; and nothing perhaps would more astonish the former inhabitants, if they could return to walk about our streets, than to witness the present modes of managing their commercial concerns.

CHAPTER XX.

MISCELLANEOUS, CONTINUED.

THE town has been visited by two extraordinary storms of wind. The first, known as "the great September gale," occurred in that month in the year 1815. Buildings were unroofed or utterly demolished, great trees were torn up by the roots, and much serious damage was done. It was during this gale that a schooner was blown up on to Weybosset Street in Providence, to about opposite the postoffice building there. The morning after, Mr. Ezra Ingraham's father rode up to Hatch's to get the mail and it was almost impossible for his horse to pick his way along the roads, they were so full of obstructions. A distillery belonging to Roger Farnum which stood on the south side of what is now Elm Street in North Attleborough was blown down. Of how long it had stood there or how large an amount of business was done in it nothing seems to be known, but it is certain that the great tornado brought it to a violent and tragic end, and no attempts were ever made to set up another. It is possible the owner may have looked upon its destruction in the light of a judgment. No lives were lost in this town, but the author of this work very nearly lost his. He was at the time a lad of ten and with a brother was at work or at play in the "sheep barn" on his father's place. The boys "heard the wind blow," but had no idea of the fury of the gale until they attempted to open the "great door" of the barn and found this utterly impossible to do. They then went to the other end of the barn to the small "sheep door." This was kept closed by a rail or beam leaning against it from without. All efforts here failed for a time, but finally by dint of great exertions in pushing on the door they managed to move the beam just enough to enable them to get out, and they got to the house as quickly as they were able. They had scarcely entered the door in safety when a crashing noise caused them to turn and look out, and lo! the barn they had just the moment before quitted, with so much difficulty, lay on the ground a complete ruin. A resident of "New Boston," some half mile beyond the Daggett place was heard to declare with assurance "that salt spray dashed against her windows." As the storm came from the south over Narragansett Bay there might have been an odor of the "salt sea" in the air, giving occasion for the "old lady's" statement. There were many occurrences more remarkable than that, had it been true, and the storm was long remembered with a feeling closely akin to terror.

The second gale occurred also in September, in 1869. It came suddenly and lasted for some hours, but raged with less fury and for a shorter time

than the former one, and the damage was less severe. Many beautiful and valuable trees, however, were uprooted, and among these one of the three mostly large and handsome ones near the Library frame. There were some sweeping as well as flailing incidents. Among the frames was a story told of an unfortunate calf, which, after the storm had abated, was found outside the doorway of a cow shed open where he had been driven, and the iron chain with which he had been fastened to a stake was still attached to his halter. A great many people who were caught out in this gale had narrow escapes, but no one in this town sustained any serious injury. To watch the progress of this storm was an experience never to be forgotten. The noise of the winds was "like the sound of rushing, mighty waves," like the irresistible raging of angry waters. Great trees bowed and broken like a drunkard, recovered themselves for a brief instant, and then fell with a crash that shook the earth; and houses whose foundations were thought to be almost interminably fixed, with stanch oak timbers and the bestest of masonry, swayed and shivered, as an aspen sapling trembles in a summer breeze. Wave after wave of wind swept on with frightful, bellowing roar, then suddenly an utter, awful silence would fall upon everything, while the elements gathered themselves together to rush on in yet mightier power, a more breathful torrent of destruction than before. The commotion was appalling, and the awe and terror produced were heightened because the agency was invisible. It seemed as if the controlling power of the universe had for a moment stooped His head and as if the destroying floods thus let loose upon the earth were hurling themselves forward rather in uncontrolled fury, a fearful "besom of destruction," shrieking and howling in fierce, wild delirium as they worked their devilish will. The whole scene was grand but too terrible, and those who looked upon it never wish to see its like again.

Before leaving entirely the hard-fay reminiscences of earlier days it seems appropriate to make mention of a society with which had quite a flourishing existence in the east part of the town fifty or sixty years ago. It had but few members and only one is living, but he, not long since, recalled its days with pleasure. It was called the "Broomers' Club." As the name suggests, only unmarried men could become members. The meetings were held in the office of one Mr. Bedford, "an Englishman and a jeweler." This "office" was a small building some half-mile or more perhaps "down the Norton road" on the place owned by Timothy and later Ferdinand Robinson, and the entertainment provided for the club, we are told, was "a keg of rum, or a barrel of cider, with crackers and cheese." One particular incident of the latter days of the club has often been related in later years. One of the by-laws very vigorously forbidding the members from visiting young ladies, the consequences following upon the infraction. In such a course of action being especially considered as detrimental to the welfare of the club as having even indirectly to lessen its numbers. Upon one occasion it was ascertained

beyond a doubt that Mr. Orville Bolkecom had called upon a certain young lady, and the dignity of the club of course demanded a thorough investigation of the matter. The fact was reported to the officers by another young lady, probably a friend of the one who had been guilty of causing the infringement of rules, and who looked upon it as a grave offence, and they determined to have a trial "according to law."

Necessary arrangements were completed with all possible secrecy and dispatch, and upon the appointed evening the clubroom was filled to overflowing: all the members were present and outsiders whose presence was necessary to the proper conduct of the case. Who the judge and jury were is not known, but the author was clerk. Some inkling of the matter had reached the ears of the delinquent, and it was with great difficulty that he was persuaded to "attend a club meeting" upon that particular evening. His presence obtained, however, the court was called to order, and the trial proceeded with great solemnity and ceremony. The informer was chief witness, a sister of one of the members and possessed of the same fun-loving nature and the same power of relating facts or fancies with telling effect. Hers was not the only testimony taken, but it was so ample even in minute details that it was sufficient of itself to prove a decided case against the accused, who, in the face of it, or possibly on account of his indignation at having fallen into the trap so cleverly laid for him, attempted to say very little in his own defence. In due time the jury retired, but the evidence was so overwhelming it required but little discussion, and they soon returned to the courtroom with a unanimous verdict of "Guilty in the highest degree." The judge at once pronounced the sentence with becoming gravity and awarded the punishment, which provided that the guilty party "should visit the young lady as often as he pleased." Thus ended the "mock trial" which was locally so famous and caused so much merriment in the recitals of after years. Mr. Bolkecom married soon after this, but we think not the young lady in question; the author followed his example before very long, and somewhat later Major Holman. He was the last to retain his membership in the letter as well as the spirit, and the club died a natural death when all of its members were finally turned from bachelors into benedicts.

Two disasters on Long Island Sound have touched the people of our town closely. About twenty years ago the steamer *Metis* was wrecked and cast ashore at Watch Hill, Conn., and Miss Augusta Perry, for many years one of our successful teachers, a person whom none knew but to respect and love, was drowned. A strange fate befell her after death. She was identified as another person, and her body was sent to Pawtucket, where it was prepared for burial, arrayed in garments befitting a bride, and thence sent to her supposed family in New York State. There the mistake was discovered and she was sent back to her own town and people to be buried.

June 12, 1880, will long be looked back upon in Attleborough as a day of

great calamity. On the night preceding, about midnight, the steamer *Narragansett* collided with the steamer *Stonington* near Cardiff Light. The evening had been pleasant; "an hour before, was beautiful," though some say that previous to the accident a fog had arisen, which at the time had become dense. Be that as it may, the passengers one and all attribute the occurrence to gross carelessness, and one at least from our town expresses the cause with one short word of three letters, the same which has often been found underlying many a wholesale disaster and ruin. The *Stonington* struck the *Narragansett* about amidships, and through "the gaping rift" the ravenous waters rushed to devour their prey"; and to make the horrid process seem to approximate the speed of light to their assistance. On the *Narragansett* the shock was terrible; partitions were crushed out and bottles splintered into a thousand fragments. Before it could be fully realized the water was fast deep over the saloon deck, and in ten minutes the boat's keel had struck the bottom. In no short a time three steamers had come to her assistance, but notwithstanding all their earnest efforts, none possible. The *Stratford* picked up a number of the drowning passengers, but a large leak in her side below the water line made the danger of her sinking so great that she transferred the most of those she rescued to the *City of New York*. These steamers remained in the vicinity as long as any living persons were to be found, and then pursued their courses, rendering meanwhile all the assistance that could be rendered to such of the nearly perished ones as they had taken on board.

Twelve of the passengers on the *Narragansett* were on their way to this town, and most of them were residents. They were James J. and Edwin J. Horton, Simeon Bowen, Milton Blackinton, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Goudier, P. M. Carpenter, Robert Fulton, Mrs. Frederick Stilson with two young children, coming to her family home, and Miss Martha Perry, coming on a visit to friends. No boat train passed through on the morning of the twelfth; and there began to be some questioning as to the reason, which was tinged with anxiety, and at half past eight o'clock the first rumors came. There were conflicting and told nothing with certainty but the fact of an accident, and that several Atholtonget people were en route for home. The anxiety had now become general; people could not set themselves to work, but they gathered in throngs about the depot to get upon the instant every scrap of information the wires might bring. The first "ray of light" in the deepening gloom of uncertainty was a telegram from Mr. Bowen, and soon after, about midday, he arrived, with Mr. Blackinton and Miss Perry on the same train. Great was the relief at their arrival, but they brought no tidings of the other missing ones, and the fears for their safety were redoubled. Messages of inquiry were repeatedly sent to every place where it was thought possible to obtain news, but no answer came; and, an hour after being thought dead, an answer (requiring no agency), and hope almost

abandoned itself to despair. From half-past eleven until after four o'clock in the afternoon not a word came over the wires to relieve the terrible doubts and fears. Then the safe arrival of Mr. James Horton, Mr. Carpenter, and Mrs. Stilson in New York was announced, but the joyful intelligence had a heavy coloring of sadness in the accompanying statement that Mr. Edwin Horton and the two children were missing. Later came the announcement of the safety of Mr. and Mrs. Goudier, and all were thus in some manner heard from with the exception of Mr. Fulton.

Individual experiences differed greatly, but all were sufficiently harrowing. Mr. Bowen in spite of the wild disorder, the aimless rushing to and fro of dazed and frightened people, managed to make his way to the bow of the boat, and here for about two hours he contrived to keep a hold and was then taken off in a small boat by the captain and clerk of the steamer.

Mr. Blackinton's first experience of the collision was in being thrown from his berth in the lower cabin. He dressed quickly and went to the upper deck, where he found the confusion "indescribable." He attempted to go back to the cabin to get a life-preserver, but finding that impossible returned to the deck and stayed by the wheel-house. When almost everybody had jumped overboard he found a life-preserver without strings. He, however, took it with him when he jumped into the water and it buoyed him up until he found a floating board, which served him better. His efforts were directed toward reaching the Stonington, and when he had succeeded in getting near he was picked up by a small boat and taken on board, where he received the best of care and where he remained until he took the cars for home.

Mr. and Mrs. Goudier both had thrilling experiences. He heard the pilot's order to the engineer to reverse the engines, and this was instantly followed by the crash. Both were thrown from their berths and it was with difficulty they got out of their stateroom, for the lights were put out by the encounter. Mr. Goudier went back for their clothing, some of which they managed to put on, but neither had shoes or stockings. They reached the main deck together, but the water was then waist high and the boat rapidly sinking. Seeing an officer with a life-preserver near, Mr. Goudier asked for it for his wife. It was refused him. A gentleman at once stepped forward, took off his and fastened it about Mrs. Goudier, quietly saying he would take his chance. To this noble, chivalrous man Mrs. Goudier owed her life; and her gratitude has been none the less earnest that she has not been able to express it, for she never learned even his name. At this juncture a colored man standing by her told her to jump overboard, but she was afraid to do this, so he offered to jump with her if she would hold him by the hand. Just then some one said: "Put her in the life-boat." This was accordingly done; but by a sudden jerking of the ropes, as she was the only person in the boat, she was thrown out and into the water. She became unconscious, and on reviving found herself in a small boat. Seeing a lady in the water alongside

hooking up a rope. Mr. Goudier took it, hoisted it to the gunwale next him, and then pulled the rest of the boat a foot and assisted her to draw out about two-thirds of the boat, then by her position of head making two feet. She could again, but continued to dash against the stern of the steamer she was holding up. The boatmen were taken to the City of New York, where the kindest treatment and the most efficient and powerful were given to all the sufferers by land crew and servants. Mr. Goudier had seen the life boat hoisted, and with the aid of ten men had passed his wife and the children for her, and said "Good bye." Just then a woman clinging to a ladder begged him to save her life also. He tried to reach the child, but something knocked him senseless. When he came to himself the woman and child had been disappeared, and he was obliged to have turned back her approaching family. He finally landed his mother's berth, where he lay down with Mr. Bowen. Between thirty and forty people were there at the time, and in ten minutes they were all being driven off by the burning postmen. A slight protection was afforded by dipping blankets in the water to hold up between themselves and the flames. After a time some thirty or more of these persons were taken off in a boat, Mr. Bowen being at the entrance. A half-hour later perhaps, the eight or nine who remained were also taken off, and Mr. Goudier was the very last to leave the wreck for this rescuing boat. All were taken to the City of New York, where Mr. Goudier at once commenced a search for his wife. This was for some time fruitless, and he supposed her to be lost, but presently a gentleman mentioned having seen her, and his name took him to the steward's room, where she lay well cared for but still unconscious. When consciousness returned, the steward with great kindness provided a stateroom for them, saying it would "be more comfortable."

The Horton brothers were in a stateroom on the side of the steamboat which was struck. Mr. James Horton's berth was knocked from under him, and the adjoining stateroom splintered into a thousand fragments. Looking through this he "saw the lights of a passing steamer." Realizing what had happened he, yet with great self-control, forced himself to dress entirely, even to his necktie, for he appreciated the necessity for calmness in facing such extreme danger as he felt certain had overtaken them. His brother also dressed entirely, and together they went out, passing Mr. Carpenter and Mrs. Stilson in the saloon. They went on to the outside, and there together still they seemed to gather life power on some of the women. Most of the sleeping quarters there were destroyed, and destroyed. Mr. Horton felt safe of his brother, whom he never saw again in life, and of Mr. Carpenter and Mrs. Stilson also, who had not been far off. He then climbed up on to the hurricane deck, two men giving him a helping hand. At this time men were mounting the lifeboats as he did, and the labourers and as it came soon swung off, "caught it, and got on." He stayed upon the raft two hours, when he was placed on the Stonington, but subsequently was taken to the

City of New York and to New York, returning home from there by train. Mr. Horton calls the man who had charge of this raft, he thinks the second mate of the wrecked steamer, a hero. He did all a single man could do to save life and bravely kept near the Narragansett in spite of the fire and all the floating obstructions as long as he could find anyone to take on to the raft.

Miss Perry's experiences were very thrilling. She heard a crash, which was followed by total darkness in the ladies' cabin. Some one brought in a lantern, and she tried to light the gas but could not. She dressed, and a gentleman assisted her to put a life-preserver on. Then another crash came and with it a great volume of water which was soon shoulder high. She made her way out of the saloon and tried to reach the gateway, but the water swept her off the steamer to a distance of about thirty feet and near to a life-boat. She caught a rope, clung to it for a while, and was then swept back to the steamer. She climbed upon a rail and clung to that until she saw a chance to get to a raft, and plunging into the water was pulled upon it. It was the same onto which Mr. Horton had been taken; but Miss Perry remained upon the steamer Stonington, which put back to Stonington town, and from there she took the train for this town. Much kindness was shown to such of the sufferers as were taken there by the people of that place. Seeing that Miss Perry had no hat, some generous woman took off the bonnet from her own head and tied it upon hers.

Mr. Carpenter, like all who were asleep, was awakened by the awful crash of the collision and partially dressing himself left his stateroom to ascertain the cause. Mrs. Stilson joined him and they attempted to go forward, but were prevented by smoke. This was not more than ten minutes after the two steamboats collided. Turning back, before they could cross the saloon, "the smoke and fire came up the gangway in a perfect whirl." Then all the lights suddenly went out, sure proof that great danger was imminent. Then they tried to reach the stateroom where the children were, but the heat and smoke made it quite impossible. They managed to get to the stern of the boat, where some people were to be seen. Here they became separated, and Mr. Carpenter went into the water. He swam away from the steamer in order not to get pulled under by the people who were constantly jumping overboard at that time. The water was so cold as to soon chill him thoroughly, but he remained in it from that time, a little after twelve o'clock, until a quarter past two. After a time he found a small bit of plank and later another piece, and these he held together and so managed to keep his head above water. At one time a woman floated near him and she begged his assistance in holding her head up. He did the best he could for her, pushing away a beer keg which kept hitting her head, and he tried to encourage her to believe she would be picked up by someone. Something in the water struck against his leg and lamed him, but presently he caught a

floating stone, and his legs around its head, and held on to it as tightly as he could. After this he must have become unconscious as he remained little else than lifeless until he found himself in the City of New York. When found he was sobbing and almost frantic that it was with considerable difficulty his grief was lessened.

Mrs. Stilson's experience was as trying to some and even as anyone could have. She was aroused from partial sleep by the fearful storm and at once discerned the emergency, whatever it was, coming. She immediately went to Mr. Carpenter's door and spoke to him. He answered her call and then she returned to her own room, dressed partially, and with Mr. Carpenter went to find out what had happened, looking for survivors down. Like many others she failed in beating an enemy from efforts and in seeing her attempts on that point to quell the panic of about the terrible danger in regard to chances of saving themselves. Seeing the situation her first thought was for her children, and with Mr. Carpenter she started for her room. All attempts to reach them were fruitless, and she soon realized that she must abandon them to their fate — death either by fire or water. Very soon she lost sight of her companions and possibly she was wounded, or perhaps. Seeing a rope she contrived to get hold of it and with its help to climb upon the deck, where she found a life-preserver and fastened it on. The thought came to her that unless she made strenuous exertions her husband would surely have to mourn the loss of wife and children both, and she must therefore do all her frail strength allowed to prevent this and save herself, and the thought nerved her to efforts that were almost superhuman. She climbed to the hurricane deck, where she saw a boat was being launched, in which she took a place. Some said were that if it had not been for her husband's help she would not have been able to do this, but Mrs. Stilson did this instead and helped to push the boat off. Turning her head for a moment to avoid the blinding smoke, when she turned it back the boat was gone and she was alone. But she did not give up her courage yet. She caught a rope and swung herself from its main support, completely naked. When descending the surface she found herself near a boat into which she asked to be taken. Some of the men said it was already too full, but one man among them was brave enough to risk the danger of swamping and insisted upon her being helped on board. This no doubt saved her life, but her generous preserver's name has remained unknown. She was so chilled and exhausted by this time, having been in the water probably for an hour and a half, that she herself began to fear she could not survive, and she asked the occupants of the boat to put their hands about her neck. She had to be kept to keep her morally in her hands. These were persons in this boat and the men in it were obliged to move it about as they best could until they were rescued and off past the City of New York. Mrs. Stilson was put into a boat and given food and clothing. Here she saw Mrs. Horton and learned of Mr. Carpenter's safety, and with him returned home by train.

from New York. She did not once lose consciousness through all those terrible hours of agony. She would not yield to despair, but with wonderful fortitude and calmness bore the double strain to which she was subjected — the severe physical shocks and consequent suffering, and the bitter anguish of resigning her lovely children to so cruel and relentless a fate. For three days she had to endure the added pain of not knowing whether the sea would ever give up to her her dead, but finally the two little bodies were found and brought to this town for burial.

Of the two men who perished little can be said. Mr. Edwin Horton lived in the water probably for quite two hours, as Mr. Carpenter saw and spoke to him twice. The last time he appeared almost exhausted and much discouraged, and doubtless did not long survive. Of Mr. Fulton's experience no single word can be said, for he was found among the dead. A sadder case than this could scarcely be imagined, for by his death a wife, with five young children, was left almost penniless to face the world alone. Many people throughout the town were very generous in rendering every possible aid to her in her sore distress, and very substantial proofs of sympathy were shown — notably by the one who at the same time mourned a similar loss.

Severe criticism was generally and freely bestowed upon the management of the steamboat company at that time, for everybody felt that the accident might and should have been avoided. Whether this be so or not can only be fully known when the world's history is read by the light of eternity, but it is certain that all who knew of or experienced the horrors of that awful night will pray with the utmost fervor that heaven will in the future avert all such fearful catastrophes, and we that our town may never again be called upon to mourn over such a sorrowful disaster.

In the month of February, 1873, thirteen women in the city of Philadelphia, received an appointment as a Women's Centennial Executive Committee. They were to coöperate with the members of the Centennial Commission, to contribute to the success of the contemplated exhibition. This number was subsequently augmented by the addition of one woman from each State and Territory. They were given authority to dispose of Centennial stock and to raise as much money as possible for the proposed object. A complete organization was not effected and the women's committee fully at work until January, 1875. In due time appeals were made to women all over the country through the medium of the public press. The matter was taken up in this town, a committee was appointed, and the following appeal written and published in the *Chronicle*: —

To the Ladies of Attleboro

An appeal comes to you from the Ladies Centennial Committee, asking your coöperation in carrying out the plans of the International Exposition to be held at Philadelphia, in 1876. The objects of the Exhibition are to commemorate the birth of the nation, to study the Intellectual, Literary, and Scientific development of a hundred years, and to keep fresh in the hearts and homes of our people, the memories of Revolutionary men and measures. Shall we, who are

foundations of our public schools," and he closed his speech with a fitting sentiment in regard to our duty in maintaining them.

"Old Hundred" was then sung.

The third toast was, "*The Mothers of our Land; their heroism, prudence, and other graces nerve the hearts and uphold the hands of our fathers in the times which tried men's souls. May their daughters emulate their example.*" Rev. J. C. Gowan gave the response to this with a high tribute to the women of the Revolution, and to all true mothers, and their mighty influence, and expressed his belief that the women of today are as patriotic as those of old. His closing sentiment was: "The great want of America, mothers."

To the toast: "*Our Manufacturing and Commercial Interests.*" Mr. Homer M. Daggett was called upon to respond. He spoke of the growth of manufactures in this town, saying that the first mill established in 1790, "ran three cards and seventy spindles," and that the largest mills at that period had no more than fifty looms;—and in contrast stated that a factory must now contain over a thousand looms to be anything accounted of. He closed his remarks by saying: "Attleboro, as the outgrowth of her manufactories, shows more fine dwellings than any other similar town in New England."

The last toast was: "*The Future of Our Country.*" responded to by Rev. Samuel Bell, who in the course of his remarks spoke of the fact that in Greece the downfall of Republican life occurred when there was a departure from the Doric style of architecture, and of his fears from signs of a similar nature seen in this land,—the tendency to depart from severe simple Republicanism—that "in another century this Republic would be lost, unless saved by the great vitality of national life evidently existing." The united singing of "America," ended this very pleasant social evening.

Another entertainment consisting of music and tableaux was given by the ladies. The Declaration of Independence was on that occasion read by a young lady of the East village, and it seemed a little ironical that one of English parentage should have been selected to render that part of the program, though she acquitted herself in the proper, patriotic manner. These entertainments were both financially successful, and some fifty or sixty dollars were raised, which were used in the purchase of stock. The Centennial Board of Finance sold shares at ten dollars each, which were represented by handsome certificates. Probably five or six were bought with the money raised here, and these were presented to as many of the schools, which each appropriately framed its own.

Beyond the temporary awakening of special patriotic feelings, and the social good times which ensued, little was done with regard to the Centennial. The proposed portfolio of views and historical sketches was never prepared, and no action was taken by the citizens beyond a previously recorded vote in town meeting. For some reason the business men declined to show their manufactures, and the great jewelry interest of our town had unhappily no representation in that remarkable and interesting exhibition. This was a matter greatly to be regretted, as its magnitude made it well worthy a prominent place in the manufactures of the country, and a proper display of these goods in their variety of style and finish would have made an attractive exhibit and been a credit to the town.

In the month of February, 1886, the most widespread and disastrous flood ever known there occurred in various parts of New England. It will doubtless long be known as the "Great Freshet." It is certain that in several

because the "solidest solid stuff" was known to be beneath the feet, and in the long and weary sojourn water had never been seen before. The previous condition of things was entirely favorable to the ground, although the ground was covered with a considerable body of snow and ice so completely frozen that no single drop of water could penetrate it and reach the soil beneath, but everything must collect and remain on the surface. A heavy rain set in, which continued uninterruptedly for thirty-six hours and was accompanied by a great and continually increasing rise in temperature. This at last broke up and partially dissolved the thin coatings of ice and snow under those contributing themselves to the descending floods from above, a great deluge was the natural consequence. Our town suffered severely, and for a number of hours the inhabitants were in anxious suspense lest the disaster should prove overwhelming. The territory adjacent to the Ten Mile River was of course subjected to the greatest danger, though every stream became a powerful river, and every tiniest brooklet an impetuous torrent, each adding its greatest or lesser able to augment the main body of disaster.

Even the town being at the head of Ten Mile River naturally suffered the least from its rise, but even there many of the streets were gullied, and many houses and other buildings inundated so that business was generally suspended.

The storm was so severe during the day of Friday, February 12, that a number of cellars in North Attleborough which had never before suffered in that way were inundated, and just at nightfall "the rain took a fresh start, and rained for six hours, as few ever saw it rain." Notwithstanding this and the fact that people heard various bulky articles in their cellars tumbling about in a vigorous manner all through the night, the inhabitants of that village were unprepared for the sights which greeted their eyes on Saturday morning. The dam at Whiting's Pond had given way during the night at one side, and the remainder was threatening to follow at any moment. "Below it the inundation extended in a broad lake, reaching completely round the pumping station on one side and as far as West street on the other. At West street a small river was flowing in, fed from the meadow near Circular street, which was, in turn, supplied by a torrent which fell with a roar across Circular street. At the corner of Broad and West streets the water was over the tops of a man's rubber boots. The water swept down stream, crossing Park street at School street so deep that the water rose to the hubs of wheels. One man in the vicinity secured his floating woodshed with ropes, and several families were advised to move out. At Fisher street the stream went directly across the road, and swept up and into the lock-up." At that time Blaneyville was under water, "the loss and discomfort something dreadful," and the limits of the "Company's pond" reached on the west to the back doors of houses on East Street and into Mr. Stanley's shop

on Orne Street, while on the east side the water flowed quite up to Mrs. E. I. Richards' stable and far into the confines of the swamp. It entirely surrounded the factories here, reaching also Mr. Bonnett's shop, and over the Elm Street bridge it was two feet deep.

The greatest damage was at the railroad crossing near Whitney's shop. For a hundred feet the sleepers were undermined. "At daybreak a huge pile of cord wood, lumber and driftwood of various kinds was piled up against the track," but after some time it was broken up and went floating off down the stream. The neighboring shops were all flooded, Whitney's the worst of all, and the only shops in the village that could run were H. F. Barrows' and F. S. Draper's. Chestnut Street was so gullied as to be "almost impassable," and all along Washington Street the damage and loss were very great. R. Knapp & Co.'s basement was filled with water "flush with the street." In Annawan Block the water reached up to the floor and ran out under the door sills. The bank building had more than four feet of water in its cellar, and at the Wamsutta House it reached the furnace fires, but did not quite extinguish them. In all these places and many more the damage was considerable, but Barden Brothers suffered "more severely than any of the storekeepers in North Attleborough." The cellar of their building having always been very dry, they stored many of their supplies of goods there, and at this time these were worth some \$3,000 or \$4,000. The water invaded these premises to the depth of three or four feet, and engines were set to work to pump it out with some degree of success. In the Universalist church and parsonage cellars the water was several feet deep, and fires went out, as was the case in the adjoining residence of Mrs. Simeon Bowen. "Many of the houses along Washington street suffered, but chiefly near the Baptist church and below the depot, as indicated by the course of the stream." In one block on the corner of East and Elm streets the basement tenants were turned out about midnight on Friday night "by a stream as large as a man's body, entering from the rear" of the building, and in some places people were kept busy all night fighting the water and trying to prevent it from entering their cellars in unmanageable quantities. Only a few of the occurrences which took place have been cited, but what has been said is perhaps sufficient to show something of the power developed and maintained by the flood here.

The Falls was considered "the keystone of the situation," and, had the dam there given way, the destruction ensuing would have been something fearful. As it was, the greatest suffering was caused here. Some time on Friday the officers of the braid mill were requested by telephone "to let the water go, as it was backing up at the Company's shop." At noon the water at the Falls "was going over the capsils, and then all the flash boards were taken up." There was no rise at nightfall, but anticipating that there might be trouble Mr. Daggett left several men on the watch. At one o'clock the

road began to play at full pastime. The gate was set, and a gang meeting along the road, an even reinforced men live a class in the morning when the highest gate was reached and when the water was rushing over the low concrete masonry. It was three feet higher than the supports, and "everything below the dam was flooded." The flood-gates were raised, and everything movable floated rapidly around. The great abutting question was, "Will the dam stand the pressure?" and especially, "Will its strength hold?" It was a large piece of masonry at the south side. Happily it was sufficiently strong to endure the great test of these vast masses of water, and the dam was spared the more awful expectation that must have followed upon its downfall. Stanley Brothers and W. D. Fisher & Co. removed the stock and tools from their shops, expecting to see the building swept bodily down stream, and their expectation was very nearly a realization. "The floor settled six inches, the bridge was badly wrecked, and the old carpenter's shop was undermined." The tenants in many houses in the vicinity received notice to quit their premises, and some confusion resulted, but it is said that all acquitted themselves excellently well and accepted the dangerous situation with great courage. The scene here was full of grandeur, of sublime, fearful beauty, but overwhelming to the beholder with the manifestation of infinite power.

The bridge at the Robinsonville dam was totally wrecked and the water was on a level with the railroad and washing over the road. There was a large washout at that point and the railroad bridge was rendered unsafe. Commonwealth Avenue had two and a half feet of water on it and all the streets at and near the Falls in the course of the river were more or less washed. Elm Street was impassable from J. F. Sturdy's residence to the railroad, it being "packed with barrels, lumber and rubbish," which had floated down there. The basement of N. B. Follett & Co.'s store had some three feet of water in it. The company were somewhat prepared for the emergency and so suffered small inconvenience, but it is said that the loss was considerable. The bridge on Clifton Street was swept away "and assumed an upright position about 100 feet down stream," and Commonwealth Avenue bridge washed just west of the Agricultural Association grounds.

At the Farmers the damage was also considerable. A part of the bank at the north end of the river was washed away, and for a time it is said, "the scene was a full description." The footbridge to the foundry was washed away and a corner of the old building itself. The small stone bridge near the residence of H. M. Daggett fell in on one side, and the road there was badly gullied. The long fence between his house and that of Sumner E. Capron, which that bridge crossed, falling in a hundred or more feet from the height of Mr. Capron's garden fence; and people wishing to get from one side of the stream to the other had to cross on the top of the fence, which often was a perilous

rious foothold in the rolling, tumbling waters. Mr. H. N. Daggett early sent word to the Farmers of the imminent danger at the Falls and the prospect that the dam there would yield to the pressure from above, advising the residents to be prepared for that exigency. The yard and garden of his own house in that village, then occupied by the Rev. Mr. Philbrook, were flooded and the water reached the level of the barn floor. The grounds of the cottage just across the river there were filled with dirt and stones, for the swollen river rushed through the yard with great force, tearing down fences and dashing the débris it collected upon whatever opposed its onward course. The residents in this house, Mrs. Elmira Cole and her three children, were removed early on Saturday morning by one of the neighbors, H. S. Babcock. Even at that time the water had risen to the height of the switch handle on the railroad. The bridge at the crossing there sank down on one side and the track was washed away for a hundred feet or more, while the bridge at Deantown at the head of the millpond there was a complete wreck.

The condition of affairs at Mechanics a little lower down the river caused great anxiety during the entire day Saturday, for upon the security of the dam at that place depended, it was thought, the safety of the buildings at the County Street bridge still further down. All the morning there was a steady rising of the water in the Mechanics pond and every moment was full of fearful apprehensions for its endurance. The dam there is some sixty feet long and it kept intact until midday, when quite a section was washed away and the pent up floods, now let loose, rushed on in ungovernable fury, carrying everything that lay in their path — small buildings, the foundations of a tenement-house, and huge masses of ice cakes, whose cracking and tearing as they plunged madly forward augmented the horrors of the scene. Enough of the dam held to prevent the entire body of water from going at once, but enough poured out to noticeably increase the height of the waters in the meadows below in a very short time and to lower the depth of the pond eighteen inches almost immediately. Reaching the bridge over the road from the East village, the torrent seized and lifted it up bodily — a fragile toy in its mighty hand — and bore it away down the stream. The mill tenement-houses by the bridge had been flooded long before and deserted by the inmates, who had removed such of their furniture as they could to a place of safety.

In East Attleborough the residents were threatened with a threefold danger. Not only was a wide-spread destruction from the freshet itself impending, but incalculable loss from fire should any break out, and an entire famine of water in the waterworks. Early in the evening of Friday the fires at the pumping station were extinguished by the spreading waters of the river, and until the Monday morning following there was no way of obtaining a new supply, the pump being the only dependence for filling the tank. The registrar issued printed notices and sent out special messengers through the village, enjoining the people to practise the utmost possible economy in their use of water.

Thompson's two-story four-block store was sufficient to last until passing south of here, passed through the heavy buildings the force had found to escape to the second stories. As early as Thursday the street had swollen from the side to several feet, and by Friday noon the water had made its determined way into the boiler-room of the pumping station. At six o'clock on the 11th it was reported, within three hours, and not more, after twenty-three inches deep, and soon after the engine fires went out. This rise continued all night and on Saturday morning County Street lay some fifteen or twenty feet high by long time, while during the night Mr. Wales had succeeded in saving his home and business things from his water.

At an early hour it was announced that there would be no railroad traffic and consequently no mail. Business generally was suspended and great crowds, among which were many women, gathered themselves together to watch the floods, all fascinated by the sight and yet terrified at the fury of the maddened waters. A bystander at this place says: "Every moment the water grew deeper and increased in force. By ten o'clock it was nearly impossible for a person to stand upright in the stream which, separated by Bushee's shop, formed two violent currents, one of which rushed under the bridge, and the other poured between this shop and Wales' blacksmith's shop. Carboys were tossed about, and a number belonging to A. Bushee & Co. and H. W. Smith & Co. went down the stream. W. H. W. Smith & Co. also lost their carboys. The stream was now 200 to 300 feet wide and gaining in violence. It tore off the fence on the Wilmarth side and poured impetuously latterly the water running factory and the old Advertiser office. At the former, a breakwater was hastily built near the bridge, banked with coal, which diverted a great deal of the water. Every moment the torrent between the buildings grew fiercer, and it seemed impossible that the latter could stand the pressure. The dip house belonging to Messrs. A. Bushee & Co. finally left its foundation, and sailing along, was caught by the shop. By noon the water was up to the bridge and soon was over it. The water rose to five feet two inches in the boiler room, which was four and a half feet higher than ever before. The scene after noon was very exciting. All business was suspended and every one who could get a place to view the still swelling water. A report had been circulated across the street in deep gorges, of the bridge, which it seemed must inevitably be swept away. The little foot bridge in Hayward's meadow had long before come down, and was under the bridge. A little after one o'clock Mechanics bridge rose from its foundation, and sailed majestically down stream. It was necessary to prevent it from striking the other bridge and boats put out for it. Mr. Edward Weaver was the first man on it, and he, Wallace Colton, and W. H. Blaney, with lines secured it at a very short time. This danger averted, a few feet across, that from the immense masses of floating ice; and the fire alarm was sounded and the firemen sent to look for boats off from Great Harbor from boats and buildings and

keep them in midstream, and the men proved themselves as well adapted for and as zealous in this work as in their more legitimate one. For two hours the fight was a desperate one, as the waters continued to mount higher and higher and many of the ice cakes proved almost unmanageable. The iron railing of the bridge was broken off, great lumps of ice were piled up in the road, sidewalks and roadbed were torn up, and tons of sand and gravel thrown up upon the higher land : and the meadows to the south were flooded as far as could be seen. Fears were at one time entertained for the safety of Wilmarth's shop, but its foundations proved solid enough to withstand the long-sustained shock. About two o'clock the waters reached their greatest height and not long after began slowly but surlily and with great reluctance to subside. Sunday morning they had greatly abated but there was still a deep, though narrow stream between the two shops, and the course of the mighty torrent of the day before was marked by a wide line of devastation. The damage was not in reality very serious at this point and in a few days the shops were running smoothly and the necessary repairs to street and bridge had been made : but if the river-bed was on a level with the central portion of the village instead of through low-lying meadows, it is impossible to calculate what the results would have been.

The Wolfenden Dye Works, though situated very near the river, by singular good fortune escaped serious injury, though at three different times during the increase of the freshet articles were moved to a safe distance. Everything movable was upset, but the actual loss was small. The dam at Dodgeville had been considered an unusually strong one and great reliance was placed upon it all through this critical time, and not vainly, for it stood the test as a whole, though it sustained considerable damage. A new wall, then but recently built between the dam and the waste-house, was however entirely washed away, and opposite that spot about twelve feet of banking also, the water forcing itself under the roadway. Some preparations had been made here for a rise of water, but of course wholly out of proportion to that which actually occurred. The lower floor and boiler-room of the mill were filled with the unwelcome element, the machinery was a good deal injured, and about two hundred and fifty tons of coal lost. It is said that over a thousand persons visited this place during Saturday.

The bridge on the road which runs from a point between Dodgeville and Hebronville to the town farm was badly washed out and damaged, and another bridge, lifted from its foundations somewhere above, floated down and sympathetically joined this wreck. The dam at Hebronville, which is a fine piece of work, held its position firmly, though it was hard pressed, but the water rose there to an immense height and pursued its rapid course almost unchallenged through the first floor of the mill. A large piece was torn away from the corner of the brick blacksmith's shop, and of the more than a thousand bales of cotton in the cotton-house about half were soaked through. Nearly three hundred tons of coal were lost here.

At Oreen's mill near the "City" there was a mass of solid granite which the farmer once possessed. The dam there was a solidly built granite wall, and it had with all its appendages, such had been strengthened but a few years previous. About three o'clock on Saturday afternoon the water subsided in the enormous weight of the collected torrents coming, and then moved irresistibly onward, driving everything before them in their resistless course. Four large elm trees standing near the dam were torn up by the roots and swept away. In a distance of six or seven hundred feet, great rocks and stones, with large trees were tossed about like pebbles, and gravel and débris were whirled hither and thither like feathers dancing in a summer's breeze. Thousands of barrels, the goods on street-paths, a heterogeneous mass of rubbish. When the dam broke, the current seized upon a new way for itself nearer the road, making a powerful stream between the bleachery and ice-house, which excavated a chasm of several feet in depth. A shed which adjoined the ice-house was swept away, and the basement of the bleachery filled with water. The bridges on this river (Seven Mile) above and below this point were destroyed, and the stream near the residence of Elisha G. May formed an entirely new channel for itself, while the after scene in all directions was fearful. The street running through South Attleborough was filled with water, a lake was formed in front of the school-house, and the cellars on both sides of the way were flooded. One end of the bridge fell in, but when the water had subsided it was found it could still be used, and the damage done in this village was not severe.

At Adamsdale, on the contrary, it was very great. The bridge crossing the old road above the mill was carried away, and below the mill the once narrow stream swelled to a river nearly a hundred feet wide. Here another bridge was carried away and a great excavation from sixty to eighty feet in width was dug out in the south bank, and as far as the eye could reach the meadows along the river course were covered with débris of every description. The mill basement was inundated, the floor forced up in places, the oil tanks tipped over; in fact there was a general wreckage of everything. A barn standing near by was uplifted; one half of it containing hay, etc., was left a few rods off, and the other half deposited fully half a mile away. The inhabitants were kept up all of Friday night in a state of intense anxiety. An eyewitness here said: "Every moment the angry stream writhed with greater violence, every moment the peril increased. At midnight the houses were deserted, and the little band of villagers hastily sought the high land, expecting their little homes to be carried away, and that the mill where they labored, would be in ruins. These last calamities are happily averted, but about half-past five Saturday morning, the massive granite dam, which seemed impregnable, gave way with a crash, and the vast body of water rushed down tumultuously, overrunning the banks, dashing through the streets, tossing great cakes of ice like playthings, and forming a scene which

was indescribable, and the full terror of which was kindly hid by the early darkness from the alarmed villagers. Morning showed the desolation, the rushing torrent, the ruined dam, and the torn up streets. Large cakes of ice were lying around, and some of great size were leaning against the corner of A. B. Carpenter's cottage, where they evidently saved the house, for the water had rushed around it with a force which would have driven it away, in all probability, had the ice not saved it."

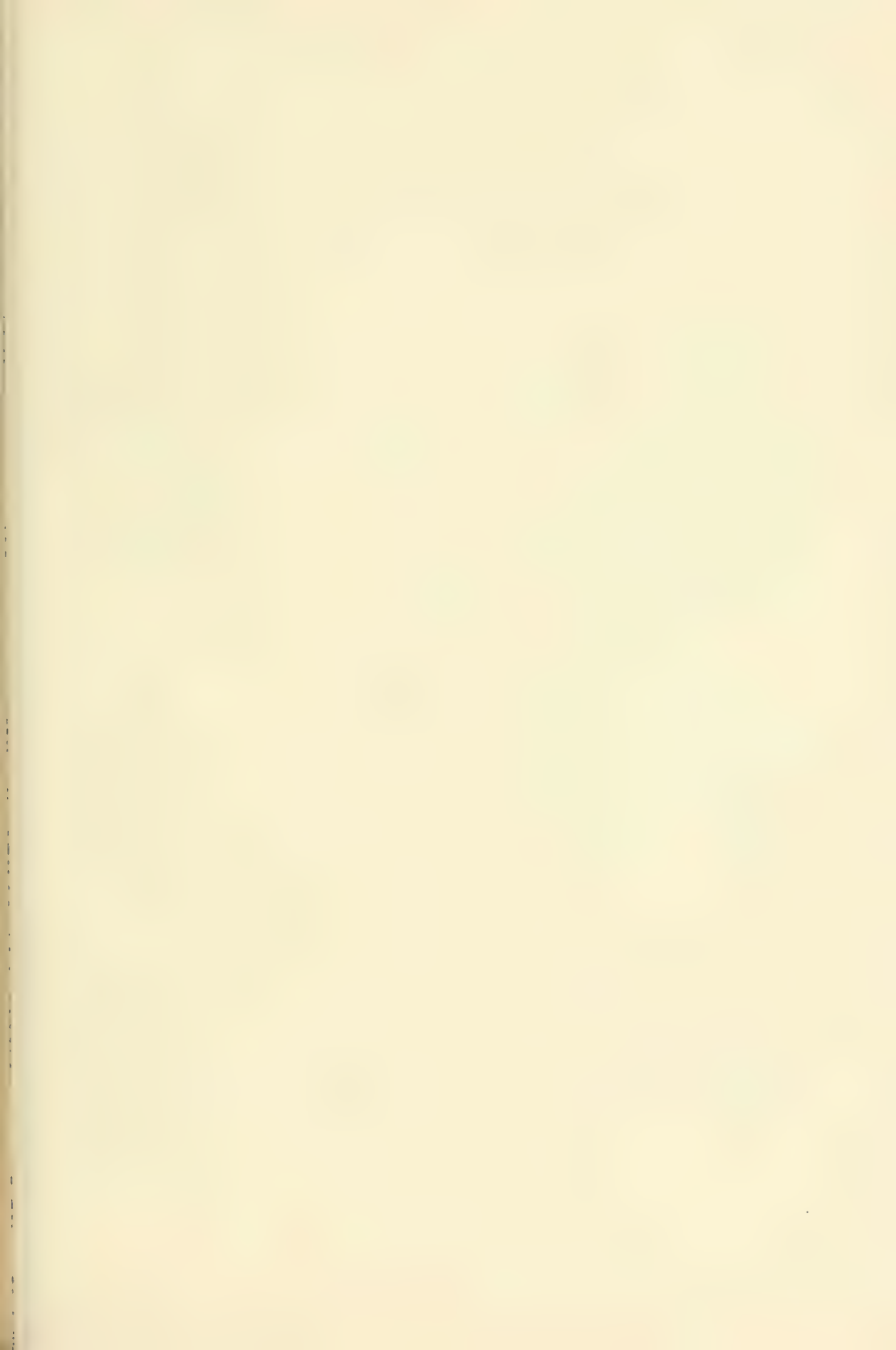
The damage to the town's property in the way of highways and bridges was very considerable and was often found to be most severe where least expected. In a number of instances old bridges which had not been considered altogether safe to drive over remained intact, while newer ones were completely destroyed, the examination of the authorities into the condition of things after the storm of waters had spent itself showing that, if the doctrine of the survival of the fittest can be connected with inanimate matters, it had in various cases at this time been most peculiarly misapplied. Brooks too small to be indicated on the maps of the town took this opportunity to force themselves into prominent notice and, broadened and deepened to respectable rivers, rendered the highways in their courses quite impassable. On Broad Street, near Whiting's factory, the bridge remained firm in spite of the adjacent severe washout, and that on Fisher Street also; but the roadbed east of the latter was cut down to the rocks. Half of the wooden bridge on Chestnut Street was taken away, and the entire street had the appearance of consistent and persistent neglect. At Deantown the road bridge kept its entirety, though there was a bad washout near it. This was the more remarkable because the railroad bridge by the pond above was wholly destroyed. "The famous selectmen's bridge at Hebronville stood through it all, and never turned a hair," someone remarked, while the new stone bridges at Oldtown, which were constructed at a cost of \$1,400, were entirely carried away, "with the exception of a narrow roadway on the extreme southern edge." Hunt's bridge bore the continuous and tremendous pressure from the large ponds above it most nobly. This bridge is a stone arch "24 feet span, 18 feet in the clear," and the abutments are filled in with rock for a distance of fourteen feet back from the edges. It was built by Jesse Carpenter, and that is equivalent to saying it is of thorough and substantial construction all through, equally sound in every part. The stone-arched bridge near Mr. Sweetland's house on the Holmes neighborhood road gave way, and all passage on the road was barred. Luckily, just before it fell, the milkmen returning from North Attleborough had crossed on their homeward journey. There were also other and numerous washouts in various parts of the town, some cellars on Pleasant Street were flooded, and in Bearswamp and vicinity the water was very abundant, but the more important damages have been mentioned. Soon after the freshet the estimated loss was placed at from \$25,000 to \$50,000. Including all injuries to per-

from the flood would have been materially lessened, and the *Advocate* of a little later date informed its readers that so universally was this want realized that in North Attleborough even the infants were "crying for a sewer." For several days at this time the town was cut off from communication with the outside world as regarded mails. The Rehoboth carrier managed to get his bag to the East village on Saturday afternoon, and this was the only out of town mail—and of course a small and unimportant one—between Friday and Monday night. The mail and express packages from North Attleborough reached Attleborough some time on Saturday, but the former was returned, and the latter had to await the opening of rail traffic. A mail was sent to Boston and one to Providence on Monday, the fifteenth, at noon, and one received from the former place on the evening of the same day, which included a New York mail, while communication with the "North" was had by carriage. On Monday evening the midnight train on the Branch Road went through, arriving at the North Attleborough station at 12.10 A.M. This was a very hazardous trip, and at the time the water at the Farmers was still so high that it flowed into the door of the baggage car. On the following day a gravel train, while attending to repairs, ran into a soft place in the road and only got back to a firm place with a good deal of difficulty. Regular travel on this road was resumed on Thursday, the eighteenth. The Taunton Branch track was badly damaged, and as work on the main line of the Old Colony Road had to be done first the repairs there were delayed, and the passengers from "Taunton way" for this town and beyond had to travel by the old route through Mansfield. Very serious results followed the freshet on the Boston & Providence Road, but sufficient repairs were speedily made to enable some traffic to be resumed, and trains commenced running on the seventeenth, Wednesday. The first through train for New York left Boston on the morning of that day, but it was delayed for six hours in Providence on account of a "break in the Stonington line." The first train from Boston to Providence left the former place at 3.50 P.M. of the same day and passed through this town at 1.13. A few days later trains were running regularly.

Throughout this entire vicinity and indeed in all portions of the State the freshet was more or less felt, but with the greatest severity in the eastern parts, where in some places it caused not only great inconvenience but actual suffering. Strange to say, the coming of a freshet was foretold in a curious manner, and the visible signs of the prophecy commented upon. Some weeks previous Mr. A. A. Folsom, superintendent of the Boston & Providence Railroad, called the attention of several gentlemen going over the road upon one occasion to a large number of hillocks of earth rising from all parts of the Neponset marshes. These little elevations were the work of muskrats and were thrown up to a height of several feet. When these reach an unusual height, it is said to betoken an expectation on the part of

these little streams of high water over their meekly homes. Mr. Fossom observed that he had never seen these currents so high before, and added: "We will have an opportunity of testing the truth of the old saying regarding the foresight of the wisest. If there be not high water the coming spring, the consequences will be something remarkable." What was feared by these wise little people of Lupton was fulfilled to the letter, but perhaps less forewarned early go home. Always like them forewarned, even to the best of their ability. In this case, however, no one would have been adequately prepared, because the freshet was wholly unprecedented in its magnitude; in fact and truth the waters were increased greatly and "prevailed exceedingly upon the earth." Now that matters are being somewhat restored to their wonted order, those who saw this furious onslaught of the elements and the wide trails of devastation their ruthless stormy passing left behind can look back upon the experiences of those days as something to be highly prized. To witness the manifestation of such exalted, mighty power, to behold scenes of such majestic, superhuman grandeur is indeed an experience whose memories are great and abiding; but those who saw the most and felt the deepest, in this time when it seemed as if once more "the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven opened," will ever welcome the bright appearing of the "bow in the cloud" and with the most fervent gratitude remember the promise of the Lord to Noah of old: "Neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth."

A good many years ago a marked improvement in building began to be manifest, but for a time it was principally directed almost entirely to private residences. The first substantial and notable improvement made in buildings for public and business purposes was the erection in 1876 of a handsome three-story brick block on the corner of Park Street and Railroad Avenue in East Attleboro, by Mr. Jabez H. Sturdy. Mr. Sturdy showed much enterprise and public spirit in so small a town in this early making so large an outlay for such purposes. He was subjected to some considerable criticism for what was termed his lack of wisdom, for many people were of the opinion that such a building was obviously long in advance of the needs of the time. It was speedily proved, however, that his foresight and judgment were entirely correct, for Sturdy Block became at once useful to the community and is an ornament to the village. It afforded suitable accommodations for the First National Bank, Postoffice, Town Clerk's Office, Mayor's Office, various offices, and some private offices. One of the most appreciable features of this enterprise, one for which the owner deserves the thanks of the entire community, was the appropriate fitting up of the main hall occupied by the postoffice. Look boxes and other necessary improvements were introduced at Mr. Sturdy's expense, and for the first time a great place for the reception and distribution of mail was provided.





1. Front of the M. R. M. building. 2. Rear of the M. R. M. building. 3. Front of the B. S. S. building. 4. Rear of the B. S. S. building. 5. Front of the B. S. S. building. 6. Rear of the B. S. S. building.

there having never before been a place so suitable in town or one adequate to the demands in the larger sections.

The example so promptly and well set by Mr. Sturdy has been followed in frequently recurring instances, and in both of the larger villages of the town there are many solid and handsome structures for business uses. Conspicuous among these are Bates Opera House, Horton Block, and Pierce Block in East Attleborough; and all the buildings in their vicinity which are occupied as stores are markedly superior in every way to those of the same kind of twenty years ago, whether they are of recent construction or old buildings remodeled. Among the most conspicuous in North Attleborough is Wamsutta Block, which, with its commodious theatre adjoining the hotel, covers a large space and presents a fine appearance, while the Bank Building, Kendall Block, Codding Block, Odd Fellows Building, and many others give to their vicinity on Washington Street quite the look of a city thoroughfare. Indeed this entire street, which runs a straight, wide way through the centre of the village from the Baptist Church to a considerable distance on the road to Oldtown, presents a striking appearance, one calculated to produce a very favorable impression upon a stranger. It is a street of which any enterprising manufacturing village would have reason to be proud.

The first really elegant private residences in town were those built, now a long time ago, by Messrs. E. I. and Josiah Richards. The latter is more conspicuous from its elevated situation, and the attractions of its extensive lawns have been enhanced in recent years by the pretty cottage where Mr. Richards' son resides. The former has large and well-kept grounds, by which the river runs. It looks a handsome, luxurious home, and the style of the house adds a dignity which enhances the beauty of the whole place. The opposite houses, those of Mr. Codding and the late Dr. Foster, impress the passer-by with the feeling that their owners have prospered well in the world, and that within their walls there reigns that ample comfort which is but another name for luxury. The next elegant residence to be built was that of Mr. W. D. Whiting at the other end of the North village. This was a very costly house, probably the most so in town, and is very handsome, though its style and that of those before mentioned have been superseded by the "Queen Anne" in all its varied modifications. Not far away stands the "round house" built by Mr. Tift. This could never have praise for its beauty, but it has had fame from its oddity. A number of the older residences along Washington Street have been modernized, notably that of the late Stephen Richardson, and several handsome new ones erected within a few years, among these that of Mr. Theron Smith and Mr. H. F. Barrows, whose commodious grounds have been brought to their present state of attraction only by great labor and expense. On the side streets running west from Washington Street, the old huckleberry pasture land of sixty years ago, are scores of pretty homes, and many of the houses, built as modern fashion

illustration, are now charming. Among these and in other situations are those of Dr. Foster, Dr. Barnes, O. M. Deane, Edward Price, Arthur Coaling, E. L. Franklin, T. G. Posthumus, Clarence Tabor, Edwin Sturtevant, Charles P. Young, E. L. Hixon, Harvey Roberts, and many others.

At the Falls village also are a number of very pretty houses, those of several members of the Frothingham family and the Stanley brothers being especially worthy of mention. Whenever the name of Stanley is connected with a place as its owner, there one is sure to find what is comfortable and attractive, as in this part of the town in the case of J. F. Sturdy and his family. A large amount of territory is now included in the Falls since the adjacent village became a part of it, and the houses are scattered far and wide. Here and there some of the finer old houses have been allowed to remain in their original state unchanged. This is the case with the squarely proportioned comfortable residence of the late Willard Robinson. It was always peculiar to itself with its quiet peaceful style of painting of subdued shades or colors, but it has always had that air of comfort and solidity about it which makes one feel that its owner must be what he was, a man of dignified, high-toned respectability. The two houses which on the whole have been more successfully modernized than any others in town are in this vicinity. One is the residence of R. F. Simmons at what was formerly called old Robinsonville and is the "old Robinson house" of a certain branch of that family. The alterations were made under the last owner of the name, Mr. Frank Robinson, and so artistically that they are improvements, not disfigurements, and give the house the twofold attraction of what is old and what is new. The too much plainness of the old style is relieved and the too much ornateness of the new is toned down in a happy manner, and the result is a charming country house. The other is the residence of H. N. Daggett at the Falls village proper. It has greatly the advantage in point of situation, as it is on elevated ground near the little eminence known as "Peck's mountain." The broad, sloping lawn in front is very inviting in its appearance and is properly allowed to be almost entirely plain turf, having only a few shrubs near the house and a few trees at the foot near the street. Great taste has been displayed in the changes and additions made to the building itself, for it is still wholly an old-fashioned house, and the noble elm that has stood there these scores of years yet bends approvingly over it, by no means the smallest attraction of the place. Inside it is still of "ye olden time," with its low ceilings, high windows, and narrow passageways; but the improvements have been founded on these places occupied with the luxuries of these latter days.

On East Acton among the new houses are not so elegant and stylish as some of those at the North village, but there are many which are equally comfortable and attractive-looking, and the entire village has more uniformity in this direction. The late Charles E. Hayward was among the first of his

generation to erect a then "new style" of house, and though the fashion has changed, the place retains the substantial aspect which cannot be out of date, and around it for that owner's sake many pleasant memories will always cluster. The nearest neighbor, built by Mr. Samuel Carpenter, was in its early days one of the finest houses in the village, and its grounds were an excellent example of a fashion then prevalent of filling almost every foot of space with close-set trees and large flowering shrubs, almost hiding the house itself from the view of passers-by. In its present owner's hands, Mr. Gardner Hodges, it has been much altered and improved, according to the present taste, but all traces of the former aspect have not by any means been removed, and those who knew it as it was formerly can still recognize the "Uncle Sam" Carpenter place. One sees with pleasure the well-appointed, well-kept place of Mr. J. M. Bates near by, who has made much of the material he had in house and grounds both. Just above, on North Main Street, is the place of Mr. Watson, one of the best appointed in the village. Peck Street has several very attractive houses, particularly those of Mr. Tucker, the Messrs. Bliss, and Mr. Wexell; and that of Mr. Sweet is a model of neatness and good care. Among other pleasant places are those of Mr. Short and Mr. Newell on Bank Street, and the Horton brothers on Pleasant Street, the house of the late Gideon M. Horton being the handsomest, built in the latest style. The attractions of South Main Street have recently been greatly enhanced by the newly erected houses of Messrs. Smith, Crosby, and Cummings, which are extremely pretty and are all quite near those of the gentlemen who lead the way here — Messrs. Sturdy and Dean. County Street Hill is now almost entirely covered with dwellings, the finest in style and situation being those of Mr. Blackinton, now Mr. Bigney's, and Mr. Marsh. The latter is a charming house and commands very pretty views. One of the prettiest houses on the other side of the railroad is that of Mr. Bullock on Union Street, and the village has extended itself far east of this spot, lately nearly the extreme limit, even beyond the meadows on the Bearcroft Road, following the lead of Mr. James Sturdy, who selected here the elevated site on which he has established his home, and to whom it is due that this situation has become desirable. North Main Street changes every year, but the Peck house still retains its ample garden, and its wonted pleasant look, and its open door for the friendly calls of an extensive list of "neighbors" from all over the town and far outside its limits. The old Carpenter house just west of this has been entirely made over and after a desirable manner, but one misses the kindly, cheerful faces of its long-time occupants, and there, as in many places, has cause to regret the changes time must so often bring.

Leaving the busy, bustling North or East village, one may soon reach parts of the town which have been virtually the same for nearly half a century. By whichever road the traveler drives he will pass thrifty-looking farms with

countdowns (flying horses and atoms) will build towns. Especially is this true at the road through the Road and life is so different here which we think more content in a pleasure of its other perhaps in all the State though equally pleasant may be the one beyond Orlow to the Holmes neighborhood and there on to North Attleborough. These cities would be a recreation to those who have lived at Attleborough only as a great manufacturing town, and a surprise to some, here and brought up with its limits. From one point of view — that of material material prospects — there is cause for a large measure of regret in the fact that South and West Attleborough have been doomed to a state of comparative stagnation for so many years. This is especially true because the opportunity for rapid growth was formerly almost within the grasp of these sections, and failure for the people because hopes of this prospect were disappointed, only, as it proved, to be disappointed. The first railroad line surveyed in town was through its western part, and had that line been adopted the naturally resulting benefits, which have been felt in other portions, would doubtless in large measure have accrued to these villages. Now, as for more than a generation past, so few opportunities in any line of business offer themselves to young men just starting in life that these almost everyone are forced to search elsewhere for chances of maintenance or success; and for this reason the population continues year after year to be about the same. From another point of view — that of calm, contented, simple living in the midst of the turbulence, the perplexity, and the multiplicity of requirements in nineteenth-century life — there is cause for rejoicing that any spot and any people are permitted to continue for even a score of years the same. We turn with a feeling of relief from the ever changing, hurrying present and contemplate with a real satisfaction scenes that partake of an older, slower-moving time. No lack of thrift or abundant comfort is manifest in these western villages and their surroundings, but they have about them an atmosphere of true quiet and peace, and it seems as if life were really *lived* here, with tranquility and earnestness of purpose, and not confusedly and half-aimlessly *rushed* through. At the entrance to South Attleborough is the old Ingraham house, where it must have stood for nearly a hundred years, and on both sides of the "village street" are the long-familiar dwellings, the Deaper house, the Barrows house, and many another. There is the tannery on the century-old site, though it now stands clothed in new garments; and a little beyond the centre rises the cheerful little chapel, quite modern but perfectly in keeping with the entire scene, blending the newer and older in a pretty picture. Over the same road one drives or walks, as *the road is so long, farther and farther, and the old "First Church" is seen, pointing its spire heavenward from the spot where our town forefathers first planted a house of God. Near by is the parsonage, — long may its present*

queer little powder-house. A picture of quiet peace and plenty is to be found in the neatly kept homestead of Mr. May, not far from the church, and its outward appearance but faintly mirrors the tranquil happiness that reigns within. A kindly spirit of helpfulness dwells here, and though many of its fellows have vanished from the land, this is still a pattern New England country home. Not far away southward is the old Newell house. It still shows how the famous old tavern looked, for its outward appearance is not much altered, and it is still literally the Newell house, being occupied by the fifth generation of that family. Long may its stanch old timbers weather wintry blasts to come, and may there never be wanting one of the well-known name to dwell beneath its time-honored roof! All around are scattered the homes of the farmers, who, with their families Sabbath after Sabbath, gather at this historic spot, to the sound of the "meeting-house" bell, as their fathers and their fathers' fathers did before them. This whole place is full of cherished recollections and hallowed associations of "ye olden time." Long may it be ere their memory fades away, and may that day be late in its appearing when the sway of the peaceful contented past still lingering over this pretty region shall give place to the engrossing power of the restless, dissatisfied present!

As we have mentioned some of the handsome buildings in town we should not omit to mention those who have carried out the ideas of owners and architects in their construction. Bennett & French and Edmund S. Cargill are the principal builders in North Attleborough, and they have had charge of some of the finest buildings recently erected there, both public and private. In East Attleborough William H. Goff is prominent, and has built a number of the new houses and Bates Opera House. His success in carrying out the architect's plan in the latter case is alone sufficient to attest his ability. Here also Charles N. Grant has within a few years become prominent in this line. He built the residences of Mr. Marsh and Mr. J. M. Fisher in the East village and that of Mr. Mackreth at the Falls. He built the new Y. M. C. A. building on County Street and the residence of Mr. G. St. J. Sheffield, which was the home for a generation of the author of this work.

We are justly entitled to a considerable degree of pride in the position of our town by reason of the ability displayed by our business men, and we may honestly congratulate ourselves upon its outward appearance. On the whole and as a whole it has a remarkably thrifty look; there is very little shabbiness to be found, comparatively speaking, in any part of its territory, and few if any tokens of extreme poverty, and in the cases where such tokens are more or less evident examination would probably show them to be the result of shiftlessness not necessity. We may also be proud of the long list of highly gifted men to whom Attleborough may claim the honor of giving birth. Many of these her sons have gone forth to take prominent places in the literary and intellectual world, and many others, both sons and

Daughters, destined to remain at home, have their spirits cultivated, the talents given them, and their attainments, though not always widely known, are both creditable and worthy. Our newspapers have long testified to the ability of sons both by birth and adoption. The editorial columns of one of these may safely challenge comparison with those of many a metropolitan journal of repute, and its whole tone is higher than many of these; while the younger, attempting less in this particular direction, may as safely challenge comparison as a sprightly, interesting publication, a "Newtown" newspaper. Each in its own line deserves equal credit with the other, and both are creditable to the town.

We have now in town three writers. Mrs. Lucy B. Sweet has these many years been called "our town poet." Her words come from the depths of a womanly heart and appeal to the hearts of her readers, and whether they be in prose or verse are spoken ever and with "no uncertain sound" on the side of the highest right and the best good. Many will recall the songs she sang so full of faith and cheer during the gloomy days of the Rebellion and remember that hearts were gladdened and courage was strengthened by such bright brave words. A younger woman has somewhat recently entered this same field of verse—Miss Mary A. Mathias, of West Attleborough, whose poems are especially well known to the readers of the *Chronicle*. Her reports are unquestioned and her productions have "the ring of the true metal in them." Some years since several charming story books for children and young people made their appearance, published by an unknown writer. Happily such secrets cannot long be kept and happily too in this instance the pleasant fact transpired that Miss Mary J. Capron, of our town, was their author. Miss Capron essayed writing in a line in which success is difficult of attainment, that of amusing to gain the attention and at the same time instructing children in the highest ways. Her abilities were abundantly proved by the success she met with, for these stories were attractive and instructive to little people and interesting and useful to their elders. Her pen is always occupied in the furtherance of some good work, but it is unfortunate for her numerous readers that she no longer employs it in this former direction.¹

The custom of quinetes was not at a very early date, according to the highest authority in the first days of the infancy of the race, and none ever known to the world has been more faithfully followed. One of the most ancient of customs, it has been so well maintained that it has never fallen into disuse, never been in the least "out of date," but has come down to us through all the ages in "unalloyed purity." It can change form, feature, dress, and manner to suit every clime and every exigency, but the real spirit

¹ *Chronicle*, March 1888.

all quite the same : and disputes nowadays, like one of old, are apt to make a display of considerable knowledge of both good and evil. Our town has always purposed to "keep up with the times" as far as possible, sufficiently at least not to warrant the stigma of being "out of the world" because "out of the fashion"; and enough of this spirit has been manifested here at different times to prove our people to be lineal descendants of Adam. Perhaps the most lengthy controversy with which any of our citizens have been connected since the Angle tree boundary line was finally and firmly laid is the one, half public, half private, so long going on in the east part of the town. It was on the docket for many years, not always active, frequently quite dormant, but always ready to arouse itself on the slightest provocation when nothing more important claimed the chief attention of the community. Happily it has now been brought to a final issue and in a most desirable manner.

Whereas the planting of one particular tree in the midst of a certain plot of ground caused the beginning of the world's first angry discussion recorded, which humanly speaking was fraught with such grave results to all the following races of men, in the instance of which we write, the planting of many common trees in another certain plot of ground has caused the cessation of a late and somewhat violent discussion, whose results promise to be filled with cheerful and lasting benefits to at least a small portion of one of the races of men. Here, instead of a driving forth of the inhabitants and the dying out of a beautiful garden, we look to see a pretty little park grow up, under the shade of whose trees as under their "own vine and fig tree" the dwellers of the "East Precinct" will meet in the future to amicably discuss not angrily dispute over the affairs of the community—even to boundary lines—and of the world.

The controversy to which reference is made is the one over the tract of land known as "The Attleborough Common," and which during the past ten or twelve years has been especially exciting. The parties concerned were "The Second Congregational Parish, and The Attleborough Public."

"The parish based its claim upon three things: on a gift of land from John Sweet in 1744; on an alleged purchase of land east of the John Sweet lot, in 1794; and on a bequest of land from the heirs of Dr. Abijah Everett, south of said John Sweet lot, in 1829." Attempts on the part of the parish to exclude the public from this ground caused the matter to be brought to a legal issue. As can be seen on previous pages of this history, the lands in this vicinity were purchased from the Indian owner thereof, for some inhabitants of Rehoboth, by Captain Thomas Willet and his associates, they "having been first authorized and empowered by the Court for that purpose," and in this way it came into the hands of the proprietors of the Rehoboth North Purchase. The records show how this land was divided into shares, giving the "metes and bounds" of each man's "grant," or "lay out," and these records constitute the legal title to the lands. On June 7, 1743,

The church was erected as has been seen, and later the burying-lot laid out in the northwest corner of what was called the "meeting-house lot," it being a purchase made by the parish. The meetinghouse lot then extended across the present railroad tracks near the church and into the present common, and to this portion of the common, the northern, the parish have without the slightest doubt a valid claim.

Our information on the "common" question is to be found in the "History of the Attleborough Common," a pamphlet prepared and published in 1885 by the gentlemen who were then most interested in settling the much discussed matter of ownership and in making the spot an ornament to the village. Having acknowledged this first asserted claim of the parish to a portion of the common, the history goes on to consider the second, "an alleged purchase of land." An article in the warrant for a parish meeting which was held March 31, 1794, reads as follows: "To see if the inhabitants will agree and vote to buy of Dr. Abijah Everett and Dr. Syril Carpenter and Abial Dunham, 191 rods of land from of said meeting-house for to enlarge the common." A committee was chosen at this meeting to confer with the owners of the property and report. This the committee did, in due time "advising the parish to buy eighty-six rods of Dr. Everett, and thirty rods of Deacon Syril Carpenter and Abial Dunham." This report was accepted, but no report of a subsequent purchase is extant. The vote to purchase proves only that the parish was not previously possessed of this land, and while it is natural to suppose that the purchase may have been made, the absence of records to show actual possession makes the claim only a presumptive one and therefore not strong. The third parish claim was for a "wedge of land south of the John Sweet lot," the same being a bequest from the heirs of Dr. Abijah Everett in 1829. With regard to this claim we quote directly from the above-mentioned history of the common. It says:—

"In describing the claims of the parish to the wedge of land south of the John Sweet lot, on what is now Park street, it is necessary to revert to the middle of the last century and take our position on what is now Dr. Sanford's corner. South Main street was then the Old Bay road, and Park street, a highway leading directly to the Common. In 1765 one Jonas Richardson lived on this corner and owned a large farm, comprising many acres lying south of said highway and east of the Bay Road. This highway then existing and running from Dr. Sanford's corner to the meeting-house, a distance of some thirty-five rods, was originally laid out three rods wide, but had been narrowed to two rods, so that complaint was made to the selectmen and the road was again laid out three rods wide in 1765. This road is designated in the layout as running from the northwest corner of Jonas Richardson's lands, about thirty-two rods until it came to said meeting-house.

"In 1787, Jonas Richardson, 'Doctor of Physsick,' sold this farm of thirty-one acres to Abijah Everett, who held the same until 1789, when he

sold it to Jabez Ellis. In these deeds the distance from the barn to the meeting-house, along the highway, is designated as thirty-five and a half rods, a part of said highway being the present Park street.

In 1776 Jabez Ellis sold the premises to one Amos Witherell, and it was at this time that the land in the road where W. H. Hoeders drug store now is (1884) was established, since in the deed passed by Jabez Ellis to Amos Witherell the frontage on the highway was given at twenty rods instead of thirty-five and a half rods, as in all previous deeds, the line then swinging from the highway in the direction of the present Park street, while all the other boundaries remained unchanged. The southern part of the common was thus left unconveyed, and still in the hands of Jabez Ellis. Since this date "no legal conveyance of the southern portion of the Common has ever been made to any one." On January 31, 1829, Amherst Everett and others, the heirs of Dr. Abijah Everett, "quitclaimed their interest in the Common to the Second Precinct of Attleborough," but, as in 1789 the father had deeded his entire farm to Jabez Ellis, they had in reality no interest in the common at all, and this conveyance therefore meant nothing really substantial. Thus argued, then, it was proven that the parish had in reality a thoroughly good claim to only "that portion of the present common which is covered by the John Sweet deed."

Within the past fifteen years two lawsuits relating to the titles of this land have taken place. The first one arose from the laying out of the highway ~~between~~ the railroad and running from Park Street directly into Pleasant Street. At this time a small part of the John Sweet lot was taken, and the parish, under a storm's jury, claiming their damages assessed the town at the sum of \$3,200. The trial was conducted at Union Hall, commencing on December 9, 1874, and ending on December 12 following. The jury after the hearing consisted for several hours and finally brought in a verdict for the parish and awarded \$700 damages.

Again we quote from the history: "Major David E. Holman, whose land formerly belonged to Sybil Carpenter and Abiel Dextate, in connection with the public had crossed the Common at will and claimed an unrestricted right of way. Accordingly in the summer of 1873, Maj. Holman several times removed the fence that had been erected by the parish, and opened a way across the old John Sweet lot. The fence was replaced by the parish and left standing for some time. In the spring of 1876 Maj. Holman again entered the fence crossing the Common south of the old John Sweet lot. The parish then brought suit against Mr. Holman in the Superior Court, in the March term of 1876, at Taunton. The defendant required the parish to specify which injuries the plaintiff relied upon in the case, and the plaintiff selected the trespass of 1873, which opened a way across the old John Sweet lot. Many old residents of Attleboro, and among these the defendant and his brother, Samuel Holman, testified to a clear recollection of the old church

and its surroundings. That the land had never been fenced prior to the enclosing of the same by the parish in the fall of 1872, and had always been open to the public. The court in summing up the case said that for the purposes of that trial he should hold that the title to the land in question, (which involved the old John Sweet lot,) was in the parish, but that the use of it was in the public. That the parish might embellish the same and maintain their fence, but that at any time when the fence obstructed public usage, it might be removed by the public. In this case the defendant claimed a private right of way and justified his act under that claim, which position the court held was not tenable, as the use of the Common was in the public." The court in this case awarded the plaintiff the sum of \$25 damage.

After this suit the matter remained quiescent until the fall of 1878, "when a platform was erected on the south end of the Common for dancing." The parish committee attempted to remove this platform, but they were prevented by G. M. Horton. The parish immediately sued Mr. Horton and the case remained on the files of the court for three years, when it was "discontinued without coming to a trial."

Soon after this a movement was set on foot by citizens to purchase the right of the parish in the common. "At its annual meeting in March 1881, the parish voted to sell this right for \$1,000, under proper conditions and to proper persons," and the purchase was finally consummated. At the annual meeting, March 25, 1882, the old committee on parish lands presented a report and was then discharged, a new committee being appointed in its place. The regular parish committee at this time consisted of S. W. Carpenter, John Thacher, and N. D. Briggs. To this number were added J. H. Sturdy, E. S. Horton, C. E. Bliss, E. S. Capron, and J. B. Savery, and they were vested with the necessary power "to sell the parish's right in the Common for \$1,000, and to determine the conditions." This committee held its first meeting on the March 30 following its appointment and then determined upon what conditions the transfer should be made. Among these was one providing that the property should "be conveyed to fifteen trustees to be held in trust for the public, and that the premises should be used for no purposes injurious to church property."

The citizens who had interested themselves in this matter had meanwhile subscribed the required sum, and early in April they met and chose a committee to confer with the one appointed by the parish. This committee consisted of the following gentlemen: J. M. Bates, C. E. Hayward, B. J. Angell, Henry Wexel, and G. M. Horton. On the evening of April 6, the two committees met in the town clerk's office and worked together in perfect harmony. Jointly they appointed the following named gentlemen as a board of trustees: J. M. Bates, J. H. Sturdy, E. S. Horton, John Thacher, L. Z. Carpenter, A. A. Bushee, C. E. Bliss, E. S. Capron, H. S. Babcock, B. J. Angell, C. E. Hayward, Henry Wexel, J. L. Carpenter, W. H. Gott, and S. W.

that purpose, a board of fifteen trustees shall be elected for the term of three years, and thereafter the election of trustees shall occur at the end of each and every three years, or as soon thereafter as convenient at a meeting called as aforesaid for that purpose.

Any vacancy occurring in the board of trustees shall be filled by the then existing board.

In witness whereof the said Second Precinct in Attleborough has caused its seal to be hereto affixed, and these presents to be signed, acknowledged and delivered in its name and behalf, by John Thacher, its treasurer, this sixteenth day of June, A.D. 1882

In presence of

Second Precinct in Attleboro, signed by

[Signed] JOB B. SAVERY.

JOHN THACHER (L. S.)

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Bristol, s.s., June 16th 1882.

Then personally appeared the above John Thacher, and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be the free act and deed of the Second Precinct in Attleborough.

Before me.

[Signed]

JOB B. SAVERY,

Justice of the Peace.

Bristol County, North District, Sept. 23, 1882.

Then received and recorded this deed in book 406 of Land Records, pages 169 and 170.

ATTEST. [Signed]

J. E. WILBUR,

Registrar.

A meeting was held in Sturdy Block September 12, 1883, and the following trustees organized: Joseph M. Bates, Everett S. Horton, Lucius Z. Carpenter, Charles E. Bliss, Hartford S. Babcock, Charles E. Hayward, Jesse L. Carpenter, Shephard W. Carpenter, James H. Sturdy, John Thacher, Albert A. Bushee, Everett S. Capron, Benjamin J. Angell, Henry Wexel, and William H. Goff, with J. M. Bates, Pres., J. H. Sturdy, Vice-Pres., and E. S. Horton, Sec. and Treas.

It was some time before any practical results beyond consummating the purchase could be attained. Plans as to the best methods of embellishing the common had to be discussed and decided upon, and then the all-important funds needed had to be solicited. Under the earnest and diligent efforts of the trustees, none of whom were more diligent than Major Horton, these things were finally accomplished. The ground was curbed and properly graded, and paths laid out in various directions, the expenditure for this work being about \$1,500. For doing this work seven persons subscribed \$100, four \$50, eleven \$25, and sixteen \$10 each, the total amounting to a little less than the sum required. The remaining balance owed by the trustees has been or will very soon be paid.

Meanwhile the people of the community had been requested to donate trees to be set out on the common when it should be properly prepared, and to this call there was a very generous and general response, as may be seen by the following list of donors: Geo. Mackie, G. T. Holmes, Seneca Cole, C. M. Gustin, C. B. Des Jardins, Ed. Miller, D. C. Club and friends, L. Z. Carpenter, Ray Horton, H. S. Babcock, W. O. Sweet, P. M. Carpenter, John Mahony, P. E. Brady, Mrs. W. M. Fisher, J. J. Thayer, Robert Burns,

G. A. Atkins, T. W. Williams, Mabel Horton, Maude Horton, Julia Trachten, E. D. Robbins, F. Carlin, Isaac Braman, C. E. Parmenter, Peter Nason, George Rankin, Alice Holden, Dr. C. S. Holden, J. O. Mowry, O. W. Hawkins, Elliot Capron, S. N. Carpenter, E. E. Engley, Nelly A. Brackerton, G. L. Tins, Mrs. Chatterton's school, J. J. Horton, L. W. Barnes, S. M. Heath, L. H. Sweet, C. L. Watson, S. W. Carpenter, F. E. Bunker, J. E. Bates, B. A. Channings, S. H. Sprague, J. C. Channings, J. E. Carpenter, Walter A. Capron, L. B. Capron, Ralph B. Capron, F. A. Newell, E. A. Morse, L. I. Sturges, High School classes of '88 and '89, Grammar School classes of '88 and '89, South Grammar School girls, South Grammar School boys, and ladies Relief Corps.

Each tree was numbered and the name of the donor of the same attached, and these have been planted to the number of ninety-three. May each one of these saplings grow and flourish mightily until it shall become a great tree, and the whole place be a thing of beauty, and a joy forever!"

This whole work was done under the management of the trustees chosen in 1885. The only changes made in the board up to 1887 were caused by the death of Mr. Hayward and of Mr. Angell, in whose places J. E. Sweet and F. A. Newell were elected.

We have given the history of the Attleborough Common, thus at length, because the spot is an historic one. Many memories of early days cluster about it, and its story furnishes many glimpses full of interest far back into the past. It is also a great pleasure to record such activities as those of the liberal-minded and unselfish persons who labored so heartily in this laudable enterprise. They had constant need to remember the fact that their really beneficial ends were positively possible of attainment only at the cost of unremitting effort, for many discouragements met them on the way, and many and great obstacles lay in their path; but with great determination they resolutely pushed the work steadily forward to its creditable completion. For this they richly deserve hearty congratulations and high encomiums of praise from the community and town, and indeed from many a passer-by who must have wondered why the enterprising village of East Attleborough left this central spot to be so long a blot upon its otherwise pleasing appearance.

If every controversy could with certainty be brought to its close in so amicable and highly promising a manner as this one, the world might well adopt the theory that "the end justifies the means." It might even indeed be wise to start a small quarrel now and again, that out of the great evil

CHAPTER XXI.

CEMETERIES.

THE oldest graveyard in town, where the first settlers are buried, is the "Old North Burying Ground," or "Hatch's burying ground," as it is sometimes called, situated on the easterly side of the "Oulde Bay Road," later the Boston and Providence turnpike, opposite the Hatch tavern, formerly the site of Woodcock's Ordinary. The situation was the result of accident. During Philip's war, Nathaniel Woodcock was slain here by the Indians and buried on the spot where he fell, which spot is still pointed out in the centre of the yard. This parcel of land, "at least six rods square, or the contents thereof," was set aside by John Woodcock, the father of Nathaniel, especially for his own family and his neighbors (for it will be remembered it was in this vicinity that the first village settlement in town was made), and they were to have the use of it for burial purposes forever, as occasion should require. This was the only graveyard in the vicinity for several years, "and the little settlement made use in common of neighbor Woodcock's ground." No stones or mounds were raised over the earliest graves, probably to keep the number of deaths from the knowledge of the Indians. As the settlement increased and the enemy therefore became less dangerous, the place assumed the appearance of a cemetery.

Some curious inscriptions were placed upon the stones here. The most famous one is doubtless that over Caesar the slave. He was given by his mother while he was an infant to Lieutenant Josiah Maxcy. When the latter died, Caesar came into the hands of Levi Maxcy. Being a waiter in the public house so long kept on the site of the "Old Garrison," and which in those days was the resort of many travelers on that route, he was "known to all the region round," and after his death many of these travelers "used to stop over to visit the ground and read the strange inscription over his grave." He was a member of the Baptist church at North Attleborough. Tradition has preserved numerous anecdotes of him. He was simple-hearted, but proved through a long life a remarkably honest and faithful servant in the family where he lived. He survived his first master, and after his own death, January 15, 1780, was buried in the same yard. A decent stone was raised over his grave by his younger master, Levi Maxcy, in whose care he was left (as has been said), with the following inscription, which in its graphic lines will long preserve the memory of "Caesar, the faithful Ethiopian": —

Here lies the best of fathers,
 Now sleeping in his dust;
 Cursed the Flingstone, once
 A glass among the best;
 His faithful soul has fled
 To realms of heavenly light,
 And for the bench that once abed
 Is changed from *Aben* to *Wahm*;
 Hence, to be gotten the stage,
 In the 7th part of his age,
 1780.

Cause's stone has been broken in pieces and taken away. The stones in this part were dark, of what we call black slate. The only white one erected there was to the memory of the wife of Cause's owner.

Upon the stone of Jesse Draper, who died in 1795, was the following epitaph:—

Jesse his Sacrifice and Death,
 Shall be thy Frown and Wedding Dress.

The following is the epitaph of Hattam Wakeott, consort of Peniston Wakeott:—

Most recently I've lost my youth;
 My eyes are closed in silent death;
 My husband now pray very fervent,
 What use this dreadful fate to death.

One Josiah Lave, who died November 1, 1791, in his twenty-second year, had above him this inscription:—

ME GAVE THE GIVE AT 22TH AGE,
 And Death has swept me off the stage.

There have been very few, if any, interments here since 1810, and the larger part of the stones bear date from the latter part of the eighteenth century. The Woodworths, Maxwells, and Blounts of the Baptist faith, lie buried in this spot. Deacon John Daggett, who was the progenitor of that family in town, was buried here, and the following was upon his stone:—

Here lies buried the body of Deacon John Daggett,
 Death came 7th 1781 in the 6th year of his age.

Upon the stone of one Thomas Daggett, who died in 1778, in the eighty-fourth year of his age, are these words:—

Here lies the body
 Laid up the 24th day of June,
 Of a man
 That 84 years with God's GRACE.

The stone of one of the Maxwells bore date of 1777 and 1758, and commemorated Jonathan Maxwell, who died in 1777, in the 64th year of his age, after marrying his wife and eight children." The following lines were inscribed upon his tombstone:—

Behold and see as you pass by,
 Mary my wife, and family
 Lie here interred in the cold ground
 Waiting the great Archangel's sound,
 At whose dread trump the earth shall quake
 And all the sleeping dust awake.
 These bodies then shall surely rise
 To the fair mansions in the skies.

Upon that of an infant son, the following : —

Jonathan the fourth born son
 Of our posterity,
 God numbers first unto the dust,
 Who in his Grace doth lie.

To the fifth son, also named Jonathan, these lines were inscribed : —

Five pleasant children in the Grave
 At present to remain,
 A Sovereign God it thus would have
 Behold, blessed be his name,
 Behold, thyself come see;
 And such once even we as thou,
 And surely thou shalt be
 Even dust as we are now.

The following inscription belongs to the sixth son in this same family : —

A pleasant child of earthly clod,
 Poor heart, to Death he did submit.
 O, may his parents hear [bear?] the Rod
 And him that hath appointed it.

One more epitaph was found belonging to this numerous family, reading as follows : —

In memory of Josiah, son of Mr. Josiah and Mary Maxcy, who died Sep. 23d. 1766, in ye 28th years of his Age. Being ye first born child and ye eight here buried.

Many now probably all of the above inscriptions are wholly obliterated, for some years since the following were the only names that could be found designating the resting-places of these worthy dead : " Ebenezer Swan ; Joseph Guild, 'That pious and excellent man' ; Deacon Josiah Everett ; Richard Everett ; Jeremiah Clark ; Henry Maxcy ; Josiah Love ; Nathan Richards, his wife Mehitable, and their daughter Grace aged 24 years ; William Everett ; Martha Smith ; Deacon Joshua Everett ; Mayhew Daggett, a representative in the general assembly ; James Manning Daggett ; David Whiting, and Sylvia his daughter ; Lionel Daggett, and his wife Esther."

More than fifty years ago the author wrote thus : " This cemetery is now in a state of dilapidation, most of the stones have fallen down, and the whole is rapidly going to decay. It is the duty of that neighborhood or the town, (a duty which gratitude demands) to see the ground decently enclosed and the stones erected, that the few memorials which now exist of our early ancestry may be preserved."

chase.¹ It has had additions and is the regular place of interment for the people of South and West Attleborough. The inhabitants of the Read and Ide neighborhood also come here to bury their dead. Its situation is a pleasant one, on a little rise of ground, at the junction of the road from this "neighborhood" with that from the East village to South Attleborough, near the old "city mill." It is one of the most interesting of the cemeteries in town, for here lie buried many of the leaders in our public affairs a century ago—men whose names should ever be honored—and, side by side with them, many "mothers in Israel" whose memories are revered by all who knew them. Here are found such well-known names as May, Tyler, Newell, Ide, Robinson, Read, Barrows, Guild, Titus, Draper, Whiting, Carpenter, Tingley, Day, Peck, Capron, Woodcock, Fuller, Hunt, Maxey, etc.

It is a pleasure to wander about this little city of the dead, for one is not saddened by signs of destruction or neglect. Time, it is true, has worked his will on the ancient monuments, but gently and tenderly as is his wont, for his touch is never harsh or rough. The more modern portions of the ground are as usual laid out in lots with graveled pathways between, and some of these are enclosed by fences or close arbor vite hedges, and there are numerous handsome and substantial monuments. The central and most elevated part is the most ancient, and here, covering a considerable tract of land, stand row upon row of black slate stones with now and again upon the outskirts a gleam of white marble. Almost all traces of paths are obliterated—perhaps but few were ever made—and people of different families with seemingly no connection lie closely side by side. These stones are all in a remarkable state of preservation, only two among the many having apparently been broken, and one of these has been carefully mended; but while they are all upright and promise to stand firm for many years to come a large proportion are so moss-grown as to render it a matter of exceeding difficulty to trace the inscriptions. On some a few words will be quite legible, or a name or two, a date or a line of poetry can be read; sometimes nothing can be traced correctly, while again the whole inscription is quite plain. Some of the stones are curiously ornamented—angel faces meet the eye and the familiar funeral urns; now and again a grinning skull is seen, sometimes with the cross-bones underneath, and one was noticed with a tracery of leaves all around, and two hands with the finger tips just meeting finished this at the top. Underneath lies the "Bodey" of one "Mr. Christopher Bowen," a young man who died in 1719.

A few inscriptions were copied to be placed here. The quaintest as well as the oldest stone found is about two feet high, its top rounded, with the following inscription in five close lines crowded into the circular space, leaving the rest of the stone bare: "Here lies the Body of Martha the wife of

¹ See N. P. Books, vol. II, p. 28.

John French Aged 46. Died August the 17 in the year 1717. Two stones, side by side, erected to the memory of a father and daughter, the former quaintly ornamented, and noticeable for the orthography and possible arrangement of the inscriptions :—

Here both the Youth
Of Isaac Jefferies
Worship who departed,
Two the day is 14th
Given by his grave
of his age.

Here both y^e
Body of Anne
y^e Daughter of
Isaac Jefferies
Widow who
Died April 24th
1717. in 19th
year of Her Age.

The date 1720 was found several times. A Mr. Samuel Bishop died in that year, Hannah Stephens, "y^e wife of John Stephens, Died January y^e 14th," and Samuel French, a boy in his twelfth year. Priscilla Robbins, "aged 18 years and 10 months," died in 1720. My Jacob Nowell died "Feb^y, 1720 in y^e 70th Year of his age." The rest of his epitaph is illegible, but that of Sarah, his widow, who died in October of the same year in her seventy-second year, is as follows :—

Let worms devour my flesh,
And crumble y^e to dust,
My God shall raise my frame
To live among the just.

Another reads :—

In Memory of Mr
Nathan French who
Died August 27 1720
1780. A. Y. 40th
Year of his Age.

The poetry here is illegible, but that ascribed to Lieutenant Aaron Barrows, who died December 21, 1801, in his fifty-eighth year, is perfect in its preservation and certainly after its style is complete :—

My Time has almost reach'd half its Term;
Dispers'd are all those things that form
And that once were so precious to me.
Now none remains but this—

One inscription can be seen where the surname, Robinson, is divided, though there seems to be sufficient space on the line for the full name, but here as in other instances the intention is apparent to make the lines even in length, like the pages of a book. Perhaps the most curious epitaph in this yard is that on the tombstone of "the Frenchman," solving a riddle of the neighbouring village and the donor of the school begun in that district. This epitaph he composed himself, and entire it reads as follows :—

Joseph Antoine Richard,
GRANDSON OF CLAREMONT,
Born Feb. 24, 1748
Died Dec. 26, 1801.

To an invisible eternal
 God. To him alone I trust
 my poor soul. And when nature
 revives again,
 My soul return in a
 different form
 Full of blessing.

A number of persons buried here lived to a very advanced age. Lieutenant Moses Tyler died October 9, 1804, in his eighty-third year. His wife Patience died in 1756, so it would seem that in a remarkable degree he was faithful to her memory by living a widower for nearly fifty years. Beneath one of the numerous large evergreens growing here and nearly covered by its low-bending branches are four small stones in a row with such a record as combined has rarely, perhaps never, been seen elsewhere, for each of the persons to whom they were erected passed the fourscore mark in years. Edward Pitcher died December 26, 1797, in his eighty-second year; Mrs. Keziah Pitcher died June 17, 1808, aged eighty-two years; Mr. Samuel Newell died March 31, 1830, in his eighty-third year; and Mrs. Mary Read, relict of Amos Read, died in 1834, aged eighty-two. One Benj. Allen died in 1808 in his eighty-seventh year, and his inscription makes him suggest to passers by his grave: "Tho' with age and pain I die, Yet I hope to live on high." The three most aged persons, so far as discovered, placed here for their final sleep, are the widow Damiris Tree, who died November 18, 1780, "in y^e 92d Year of her age," Jeremiah Pierce, who died during his ninety-fourth year, and Captain Samuel Robinson, who died November 2, 1826, in his ninety-eighth year.

Rather hopeful and cheering are the lines inscribed to one Loammi Day and Mary, his wife:—

Calm is the spot that hides the good and just,
 And sweet their slumbers on the bed of dust,
 Her bright example wipes our tears away,
 And points the passage to the realms of day.

One more epitaph is given because the expression of sentiment it shows is all too rare in this world of forgetfulness and is worthy of preservation in annals far more widespread than these can ever hope to be:—

In Memory
 of
 Martin Robinson,
 Born in Attleborough,
 March 20, 1792.
 Died in Providence,
 Feb. 13, 1852.

This monument is erected by his
 Providence friends.

As a token of their high regard for his many virtues,
 his great integrity of character,
 and purity of life.

On the highest spot, nearly in the centre of the cemetery, in the very midst of the buried people for whom he so long labored, as it still labors and ministering unto them, was the Rev. Hiram Ward, his wife by his side, surrounded by various members of his numerous family; and a few rods away his successor, Rev. John Wilder, his first wife, Esther, "the excellent consort," three daughters, Esther, Betsey Brown, and Julia Green Wilder, and an infant son, who lived but twenty days and was named Hatafah Ward, are buried.

One lingers here willingly and still lingers, more and more loth to leave the sacred spot where the quiet belonging to a city of the dead still reigns. In the restful atmosphere and peaceful silence of such an enclosure visions of the past best love to gather, and here is one ancient burial place where memories of the early days may be recalled undisturbed as yet by the distracting noises and tumults of our busy life to-day, though not very far away on the one side there throbs a great modern engine, and on the other now and again through the trees may be caught glimpses of a lightning-driven car speeding swiftly on its way.

There were in the course of time several small burial lots set apart for the accommodation of families or the inhabitants of sections in various parts of the town. Among these was a small tract on Washington Street in North Attleborough at the terminus of the Branch Railroad. The internments made in it never reached a large number, and recently all the bodies have been removed to Mount Hope Cemetery, but no disposition of the land has been made.

The Mann burying ground is a small family yard on the land of Mr. Gamaliel B. Draper on the "Old Post Road" running through the western part of the town. Its occupants are all members of the family of Dr. Bezalel Mann and their descendants. The epitaphs of Dr. Mann, of his wife, and of his son, Dr. Henry Mann, who was lost in the awful catastrophe to the brig General Arnold in Plymouth Harbor, have already been given in a previous chapter.

The inscriptions on some of the other stones erected to the dead here are given.

THIS STONE
IS ERRECTED TO THE MEMORY
OF
MRS. MARY DRAPER,
WIFE OF MR. GAMALIEL DRAPER, & DAUGHTER
OF DR. B. & R. MANN. SHE
DIED MAY 26, 1838, IN THE 54TH YEAR OF
AGE.
SHE WAS EDUCATED IN EUROPE, AND WAS
UNION WITH THE CHURCH. SHE EMPLOYED
BY HERSELF, WITH A LITTLE ASSISTANCE
FROM HER SON.
SHE WAS DEATH, WITH THE ASSISTANCE
AND CARE OF A CHRISTIAN.

There is no stone erected to the memory of Mr. Josiah Draper. On that of a son is the following:—

In memory of Benjamin
son of Mr. Josiah Draper,
& Mrs. Mary, his wife,
who died Oct. 12th, 1802,
in ye 18th year of his age.
In bloom of youth I was cut down,
Just as the grass & flowers were mown,
From death's arrest no age is free,
Prepare to die and follow me.

Sacred
To the memory of
Bebe Mann Capron,
only daughter of
Doctor Seth Capron,
& Eunice, his wife.
She died grievously
lamented on the 25th,
day of Dec., A.D. 1796.
Aged 21 months & 17 days.

Here lies Eliza Mann,
daughter of Jno. Milton
Mann, & of his wife E
lizabeth Mann, who
died Decem'r 27th, 1790,
aged 1 Year, 9 Months & 8 Days.
This sweet unfolding beauteous flow'r,
Th' all bounteous God in love had given,
But soon, too soon 't was crop'd from earth
To bloom in heaven,
Transplanted hence.

The only other cemetery in what is properly West Attleborough is the Paine burying ground. This is in the Holmes neighborhood, and the land was given for the purpose about forty years ago by a resident of that vicinity, named Paine. Members of the Sweetland and Holmes families constitute the majority of the persons buried there.

There is a cemetery connected with the little church at Briggsville, and though both it and the meetinghouse are over the Rehoboth line many of its silent inhabitants were once residents of this town. Doubtless numbers of the stones here bear quite ancient dates.

Upon a small island in the mill pond at Dodgeville, connected with the land by a roadway lined with trees, is the burial place of the family from whom the village derives its name, who owned and carried on the manufactory there many years ago. Only persons of the name of Dodge or members of the family are buried in this ground. It is a pretty spot planted with trees and surrounded by gently lapping water. The sleep of its inmates must be peaceful with the soft green grass of the summer time above them or the

pure white mantle of winter snow. They heed not the hum and clatter of the busy mills hard by, but rest calmly with murmuring waters all around them and beautiful trees whispering soothingly over their heads.

Between Woodlawn Cemetery and the Branch Railroad there is a little knoll shaded by old trees, and overgrown with wild, tangled shrubs and vines, and containing a small cluster of gravestones. This has for generations been known as the "old Peck burying-ground." It is no doubt a part of the farm of Hezekiah Peck who settled here "soon after 1700," and whose house stood near where the present "old Peck house" now stands, where the railroad crosses North Main Street. By the lines of the Property it may be seen that as early as 1709 he and his family began to have large tracts of land laid out to them along the Bungay "Cedar Swamps," — which extended from North Main Street at Rockintonvale for quite a distance up the river, — also on "Bungay plain," and at the southwest end of the "great Bungay meadows"; and this latter "lay out" very probably includes this burial spot. It is a part of what is known in the Capron family as the "39 acre lot," the bounds of which are given as follows: "Beginning at the Bungay river bridge, running along by North Main St. to the land now owned by Mrs. B. B. Day, and Mr. A. M. Everett, then east between Mr. E. B. Bliss' and Mrs. Lucius Daggett's house, crossing Bank St. to John Sweet's head, then north to the river, then by the river bank to the bridge." Subsequently to 1733 the widow of Hezekiah Peck the second of this town sold her dower right in her husband's lands to Joseph Capron, of this town. Very probably this thirty-acre lot was set apart as her dower, and the Joseph Capron to whom she sold it was her husband's nephew — the son of Judith Peck and Captain Joseph Capron. He was grandfather to Joseph W. Capron of this town. February 3, 1797, Sarah, widow of the above-mentioned Joseph, sold this same land to Jonathan Peck, her son-in-law. He was grandson of Hezekiah the second, and father of the late Capron Peck. It is said that at one time there was a road along the south side of this land, running from North Main Street, as it is now called, to the "Norton road," now Pleasant Street.

The first Hezekiah Peck of this town was without doubt the first person buried in this ground, the spot being probably selected by his family at his death in 1723. The site was a pleasant one, in view of his house and more convenient than the Woodlawn ground, four miles away, on the newly laid out one at South Attleborough, not very much nearer. A writer speaking of him and his wife says: "They were buried near his residence, the place afterwards becoming the family burial ground." Like the ground now best known as the "old Hatch burying-ground," this spot was used most probably as both a family and neighborhood burial place.

It is supposed that Bartfield Capron, the first of that name in town, was buried here, but there is not the slightest trace of his grave to be found.

There was no lack of means in his family, but his numerous children, to whom he had been very generous, one and all "forgot to erect a stone to his memory." This fate was by no means singular, for many a worthy man lies in the bosom of mother earth, whose resting-place almost from the very beginning has been forgotten and unknown. Some of his descendants were buried in this spot, probably during the forty or more years when it was in possession of his family; and some of these have been removed to the Old Kirk Yard, and from one lot to another there. Mr. Capron used this thirty-acre lot as a pasturing field for cows, and portions of it have been devoted to that purpose up to the present time. These animals have no doubt knocked down and trodden upon numbers of the gravestones, but their vandalism has been equaled or surpassed during these many years by that dreaded destroyer, the typical "small boy," whose chief end and aim in life seems to be to demolish whatever he can lay his hands on, and upon whose natural ear the sound of cracking stones, if he wields the hammer, falls with a peculiar attraction, even like strains of entrancing music upon a more cultivated ear.

There are at this time of writing but twenty-one stones remaining. Four of these are lying flat upon the ground, nearly all are more or less chipped and broken, and many of the inscriptions are almost entirely effaced. All are of the old-fashioned black slate and are hoary with the lichen growth of more than six scores of years. The lettering on a few is still traceable.

The most ancient stone, that erected to the memory of the first occupant of the little cemetery, is still almost intact, and its quaint inscription reads as follows:—

Here lies ye Body
of Mr Hezekiah
Peck, who Depart
ed this Life August
Ye 9th 1723 in ye 62^d
Year of his age.

Two more of this same family were found whose stones were still undestroyed:—

Here lies ye Body
of Mrs. Deborah
Peck, Relict of
Mr Hezekiah
Peck, Dece^d
March ye 5th 1736
in ye 72^d year
of her Age.
In Memory of Mr.
Hezekiah Peck
Dece^d (date not legible)
1753 in ye 58th Year
of his Age.
Blessed are the Dead
that die in the Lord.

On still another of this nature could be traced only the name, Mr. John Peck, and the single date, 1790.

On two of these bank of dark-gray stones near the top is cut a child's face with outspread wings on either side. One of these bears the name of E. W. Richardson and the date 1749; the other, the inscription which follows:—

In memory of Mrs.
Elyse W. R. of
My Island Country,
Who Died Young
Year 1790.
Aged 88 years.

Another stone is thus inscribed:—

1790.
Here lies the body of
The Famous Dyer
Sept. 24, 1727.

The first date must probably indicate the year in which the stone was erected. One inscription was found entirely illegible, with the exception of the name, which was Wellman; and of another only

1761 or 66
Year of his age.

remained to be seen.

There is a group of stones belonging to various members of an Atwell family. Upon the largest of these, that erected to the father of the family, a handsome coat-of-arms is cut. This consists of a crown with a rampant unicorn on either side, but no motto could be found. The stone is thus inscribed:—

Samuel
Father and mother of
Mr. Samuel
Atwell
He Died January 26
A.D. 1761.
He was 60 years
Old At His Age.
Aunt Abigail of Plymouth,
Mass.
From her remains of
The Tomb erected this
Monument.

Opposite to this group was discovered:—

Sam. Atwell the younger
Sept. 15, 1775, in the
100th year of his age.

On another: " — Atwell a son Dec. 29, 1739 "; and on still another: " Mary Atwell, 1755 "; all else was illegible.

The most curious epitaph, still to be seen here, is that on a stone raised to the memory of Mr. John Buckle; but no dates are traceable. The epitaph reads: —

Death's steps are swift,
Yet no noise it makes,
His hand unseen
Yet most surely takes.

There was once a stone here whose inscription stated of the man lying beneath that " He died while eating his supper." It has now entirely disappeared, nor, so far as the writer knows, has tradition preserved any further facts with regard to this unfortunate being. Such a statement as the one made, without any explanations, is rather unsatisfactory and gives rise to unpleasant conjecture. Out of consideration for the feelings of those who might read this inscription or as a necessary warning, the friends of that man ought to have told posterity whether or not it was the supper that killed him.¹ There are no signs of mounds, even where headstones are still standing, and no idea can be formed by an examination of the ground as to the number of burials made here, but someone has said: " The hill used to be covered with graves." Now huckleberry bushes and the coarse growths of neglected fields cover the place, and if anything is ever to be done in the way of restoration and preservation it must be done soon, or it will be forever too late. It will not be long before the last remaining vestiges which point to this as a spot once set apart and made sacred to the memories of the dead will have passed away, and then tradition even will have little thought to bestow upon it. The coming generation will know nothing and care nothing for a group of decaying trees on a bit of moss-grown ground.

There has been some talk among the proprietors of Woodlawn Cemetery about obtaining this ground with a view to restoring and caring for it properly. It is a pretty spot, this little hillock, with its still beautiful trees on the banks of the winding river, and if these proprietors could become its owners it would make a most attractive addition to the already attractive modern cemetery beside it. It is to be devoutly hoped that the right kind of efforts in this direction will be made and that the commendable plan of rescuing this very ancient burial place, one of the oldest in town, from complete annihilation will be speedily accomplished.

OLD KIRK YARD.

Up to 1744 the greater portion of the burials from the east part of the town were made in the " Old North Burying Ground," or " Hatch's," but in October of that year it was voted by the people of the Second Precinct

¹ It has been ascertained that this name was Atwell, but nothing further seen to be known.

may trample with impunity on the graves of our fathers? and all this, to gratify the pride or caprice, and promote the interest of a wealthy corporation! The first rail-road in Massachusetts has its foundation on the ashes of the dead!

This is not the worst. A few of our neighbors have been concerned in the transaction. This was the "unkindest cut of all." Will it be believed by succeeding generations, that men (hitherto regarded as men of feeling) could be found in this town, who, from selfish or worse motives, were willing to lend their influence and combine with a *foreign* corporation to disturb the repose of the grave? Yet such is the fact!

The above quotations are from a pamphlet printed in 1834, containing "Remarks" on this matter, quotations from an address by the Hon. Judge Story, delivered at the consecration of Mount Auburn Cemetery, the public actions of the parish and town, the laws of the State with regard to the protection of burying grounds, and finally "Remarks on Corporate Powers," arranged "By a Freeman¹ of Massachusetts." Those actions of our citizens are given at length not only because the matter of which they treat was of great importance to the town, — beyond its deep and personal interest to many members of a single community, — but because subsequent events have proved that the citizens were wholly right in the position they then assumed, and the railroad company wholly wrong. No one will be inclined to deny the fact that almost incalculable benefits have, as a matter of course, accrued to the town from the passage of this railroad through it; but the particular route decided on has given rise to very much inconvenience and annoyance, to the eastern portion especially, to many controversies between the town and the corporation, to great expense, to a second desecration of the burying-ground, and even to loss of life; most, if not all of which, might have been avoided, and the benefits to the town have in some ways increased. In view of these things the company many years ago acknowledged that their early procedures were unnecessary and that it would have been better for the road had another route through the town, which was proposed, been accepted.

A parish meeting was held in September, 1833, and a committee of the seven following gentlemen was chosen to take what measures they could in behalf of the parish against the then contemplated innovation: John Daggett, Jonathan Bliss, Willard Blackinton, Abiathar Richardson, Jesse Carpenter, Harvey Claffin, and Daniel Carpenter. The chairman of this committee was the "Freeman" above referred to. We give his report of the proceedings of the committee and the actions of the citizens as found in the pamphlet mentioned:—

The following documents, and the principles on which we opposed the measure, are here embodied in a more permanent form than that in which they now exist, not only for the benefit of those who have an interest in the subject and have not had an opportunity of examining them, but that we may hereby make a *Public Protest* against the claim of the Corporation; and that this case may never be drawn into a *precedent* to justify future encroachments of

¹ The author.

That by authority or under color of an Act of the Legislature, entitled, an "Act to Incorporate the Boston and Providence Rail Road Corporation" passed the 22d day of June A.D. 1831, the said Corporation, by their Agents, have located their Rail Road through the centre of the Burying Ground aforesaid, to the great damage and injury of your Petitioners; that this Burying Ground was laid out in the year 1744, and has ever since been occupied for the purpose of burying the dead, and now contains, by estimation, from ten to twelve hundred graves; that the said location (if persisted in) will cause the removal of the greatest proportion of the remains of the bodies in said ground, and will leave the remainder in an indecent and unbecoming condition. And, therefore, your Petitioners pray this Honorable Court to interpose their authority in our behalf, and prevent this great injury to our interests and feelings.

We respectfully represent, that, in our opinion, it is wholly unnecessary to locate said road in that direction: that from the nature of the ground in the vicinity, which is a level plain of great extent, this graveyard might be avoided without any material injury to the use and improvement of said road; that a slight curve in the line of the road, which, in practice, would amount to no perceptible variation, would entirely clear this Burying Ground, and thus render it unnecessary to disturb the remains of the dead: That the said Act provides, that the said Corporation shall take no ground or materials for the use of said road, without paying a full compensation therefor; but that, from the nature of the case, the damages to which we are entitled are no adequate compensation for the injury caused; the mere cost of the ground and of the removal of the dead, is no equivalent for disturbed peace and wounded sensibility. Such an injury cannot be measured by any pecuniary standard. Burial places have been regarded by all nations, and in all ages, as consecrated ground; and all needless exposure or disturbance of them, is opposed to the universal sentiment of mankind, and is a violation of the most sacred feelings of the heart. Such feelings are entitled to respect, and to the protection of the laws. By a recent Act, the Legislature, guided by a due regard for the tender associations connected with the remains of our kindred, have seen fit to impose heavy penalties upon any who should presume to violate the sanctuary of the grave; and have thereby expressed the feelings which the people of this Commonwealth entertain for the protection of the cemeteries of the dead. We have a right to expect that the feelings which dictated that Act, will be extended to us in this case. That a right thus to disturb the sacred repose of the grave, on the part of said Corporation, could not have been contemplated by the Legislature, at the time of passing said Act of Incorporation; and the exercising of such a power under that Act, is, therefore, contrary to the true intent of the Legislature, and to the interests and good feelings of the people of this Commonwealth. We claim protection in the case as a right guaranteed to us by the humane principles of our revered Constitution. We, therefore, most earnestly and solemnly appeal to an enlightened and humane Legislature, actuated by a due regard for the feelings and peace of the community, to grant us relief from this grievance, in such a manner and by such means as they in their wisdom shall deem right and proper.

And your Petitioners further pray this Honorable Court, that they would pass some Act, for the better preservation of burial places, especially against future grants of this kind; and that they would establish some impartial tribunal, who shall give a hearing to both parties in such cases, to the end that, whenever hereafter any individual or corporation shall, in the location of a road or canal, come in contact with a burying ground, the said tribunal shall determine, on full and fair examination, whether the exigencies of the case require that the same or any part thereof should be removed. This we ask on the principle that, in a case which so deeply affects the feelings and interest of the people, as the removal of the dead from their graves, it ought not to be left to the sole discretion of an interested individual, or a corporation, naturally governed by self-interest alone, to judge of its necessity—that it is not just for *them* to determine whether the public good demands such a sacrifice. We respectfully ask, that all future grants of this kind may be made subject to such a limitation. We earnestly protest against the granting, in future, of the unqualified powers and privileges (of which we have complained) to any corporation or body of men in this Commonwealth. And we, therefore, humbly pray this Honorable Court, to adopt some measure affording a more adequate protection to Burying Grounds. And as in duty bound will ever pray, &c.

Signed

JOHN DAGGILL, and 112 others.

Attleborough, January 30th, 1834

At the last meeting of the Proprietors, (which was very fully attended,) held a few weeks previous to the commencement of the work, the following Resolution was passed. They were resolved, that, if the act should be done, the responsibility and odium of it should rest on those by whom it was done; and would do nothing which might be construed into acquiescence or consent, that they might thus avoid the appearance of being made seeming partakers in the outrage.

Resolved, That the Proprietors of the Burying Ground are still opposed to the passage of the Rail Road over the same; that they will never encourage or consent to it, and that they deny the right of the Corporation to construct said road over said ground, or to disturb or injure the remains of the dead therein deposited.

As has been seen, all efforts in opposition to the corporation were unavailing; the road was laid through the burial ground and a third of an acre filled full of graves condemned. It was necessary to remove not only the bodies buried in the direct line of the road, but those in that portion of the yard east of it, for, as may readily be seen, it would be entirely inappropriate to have two distinct burial plots as small as these so near each other. One or two families utterly refused to allow their dead to be removed, and many will recall the little group of slate headstones which long remained on the common. It is said that the railroad company bought a piece of land somewhere on the other side of the original lot, which they gave to the parish to add to the kirkyard, and this might have been done to compensate the parish for the necessary abandonment of the extreme eastern portion and to make room for the bodies removed therefrom. There is every reason to suppose that money compensations were liberal and as satisfactory as any such remunerations could be made, but no amount of money or gifts can compensate for the real damages in such cases.

In 1870, when the charter for the Attleborough Branch Railroad was obtained, more land was demanded for its purposes near the depot. Land for a third track was no doubt necessary, but all citizens could not understand why but one route was possible or available. The company, however, decided that the new line *must* join the old one in the immediate vicinity of the Old Kirk Yard, and while in all probability this *must*, translated, would have meant simply desire or convenience, as before, the corporation against individuals unjustly won the day, and in spite of great opposition another work of desecration took place in this unhappy spot. At this time fully a hundred bodies were removed, or the remains of bodies, for many had almost crumbled to dust, and these fragments were placed some in Mount Hope and some in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Since that time a petition has been circulated and signed by a large number of people and presented to the Legislature. "Its reception was instrumental in procuring the passage of laws, which will forever remove the possibility of a like desecration of sacred ground." It is to be devoutly hoped that no body of legislators will ever be assembled in our State capable of contemplating even for a moment the repeal of any such laws as these.

There are it is thought about eight hundred bodies in the Old Kirk Yard, and occasional interments still continue to be made there, but there are very

few of any unimproved lots, and only a few vacant spaces for graves remain. "For more than one hundred and forty years it has witnessed its silent increase, and witnessed the dying away of many great and good men." The grave of Rev. Peter Thacher, that "highly respected and useful man," is here. He requested that he might be buried near the old church where he preached so long, and when it became necessary to change his resting-place a still finer spot in the new church was chosen by his descendants, and it seems as if his good spirit were hovering near his successors in the pulpit of that people to whom he so long witnessed, preaching the gospel with true Christian earnestness and fidelity. Rev. Nathan Holman, pastor for more than a score of years, lies in another portion of the yard; and Colonel John Daggett, the Revolutionary hero, William Bolkerin, Herkiah Peck, and many others of prominence in both earlier and later days are placed here. Here also is the grave and the monument of Abiathar A. Richardson, the donor of the school fund; and various soldiers of our own and the earlier wars find here their last camping ground. Among these are Oscar B. Cummings, Sergeant Abraham Savery, and Lieutenant Darius N. Cole, who was killed at Spotsylvania, and whose headstone bears the inscription, "He died for his country"; and there are several others who are remembered with the offerings of Memorial Day. One of the veterans of the Revolution who were buried here was Captain John Ellis, who died November 14, 1808, in the seventy-sixth year of his age. His name will be familiar to all who may read this book, for he did his town good service in many ways during many years. He was allowed to rest in peace only about sixty years, for his grave was disturbed by the Branch Road and the remains, with those of about eighty others, were taken to Mount Hope Cemetery. The most ancient date found on any tombstone now in the yard is for 1736 on that of a member of the Tyler family, an ancestor of Professor Tyler, of Amherst College. This person must have been first buried somewhere—perhaps in some family burial-ground afterwards deserted—as the year of his death antedates by several years the laying out of the ground. There were no doubt many quaint and curious epitaphs on the earlier stones placed here, after their completion was an almost universal fashion of those times, but none of these have been preserved by the author.

Two or three epitaphs from stones in this yard have been found and are here given.¹

Epitaph of Mr.
John Smith, June 10th
1801
Aged 30 years and 6 months.

My young friends be ye good as
you can, and gentle with your kind.

¹ These three epitaphs were published in the *Amherst College Record* for the year 1887, and are here reprinted.

Your sun like mine may set at Noon,
 Your soul be called for very soon;
 In this Dark place You'll quickly be,
 Prepare for Death and follow me.

The stone marking Rev. Peter Thacher's grave is 3 feet 4 inches high and 2 feet wide. Old fashioned carving under which we read: "In memory of the Rev. Peter Thacher, M.A., the late Faithful and beloved Pastor of the 2nd Chh. of Christ in Attleborough; he was born Jan'y 25th, 1716; Ordained Nov^r 30th, 1748; Died Sept^r 13th, 1785; in the seventieth year of his age, and 43d of his Ministry."

Whom Papist with not Superstitious fire
 Would dare to adore we justly may admire.

In memory of
 Ebenezer Tyler,
 Esquire,

A native of this town.
 A valuable citizen, and for the
 three years previous
 to his removal to Pawtucket
 a representative in the State
 Legislature.

He was the son of John and Anna,
 and Grandson
 of Ebenezer and Catharine Tyler,
 who are buried on his right.

He died
 at his seat in Pawtucket,
 Oct. 18, 1827,
 Aged 67 years.

Yes, all must yield to death's remorseless rage,
 Creation's brow shall wrinkle up with age,
 Time shall remove the keystone of the sky,
 Heaven's roof shall fall and all but virtue die.

This yard has been almost entirely neglected for many years, and very little has ever been done apparently in the way of caring for it. Within a few years, however, the matter has been placed in the hands of a committee, and something in the direction of improvement has been attempted. Those who have friends buried here should be interested every one, and it is to be hoped that the parish will do its share of such a work and "make the Old Kirk Yard a fitting representative of the public spirit, and an honorable evidence of the care and respect of the town for its dead." The work of improvement and embellishment would be the more obligatory should a new church edifice be erected elsewhere, and considerable discussion resulting in some steps in that direction has taken place. In that event, we hope no one would for a moment contemplate or suggest a general removal of the dead. For once let the progress which means innovation and disturbance stay her hand: let this spot be improved to the utmost, but not diverted to other uses. Made cheerful and attractive as a cemetery, it would greatly enhance the centre of its village. Whether the church goes or stays, let this portion of the "meeting-

Elizabeth, wife of John Carpenter, has the following epitaph:—

Farewell, my dear husband, she cries,
Now from thy kind bosom I leap,
With Jesus my Bridegroom to be,
My flesh in the tomb for to sleep.

That of Lydia, the wife of James Pullen, is:—

Pray stop and read as you pass by,
Your parents here together ly.

Many of the inscriptions here show that the people whom they commemorate lived to a very advanced age.

Very nearly all of the early settlers at the Falls were interred here, and their followers continued to be largely up to the time of the opening of Mount Hope Cemetery. Burials are even now made here, but at very infrequent intervals. It is upon the northern portion of this ground that the Central Congregational Church edifice has been erected. The selection of this site necessitated the removal of some forty or fifty bodies, which was done with the consent of a majority of the persons directly concerned, but with the decided disapproval of some of these, who claimed that another equally desirable site might have been chosen and this "disturbance of the dead" avoided. While it was unfortunate on this account that some other place could not have been agreed upon, the object for which the remains were removed was one far less harrowing to even the most sensitive feelings than that for which so many were removed elsewhere in town; and if this long-moldering human dust could have formed itself anew into a living reality, it might have voiced a glad willingness to be thus disturbed and borne to another resting-place if by that means a way was to be made for the continued preaching of God's Word.

About the time of the Revolutionary War, Captain Joel Robinson gave about two acres of land to be used as a burial place. It lies on the west side of the road from Dodgeville to Hebronville, between the one which runs past the old Tiffany place to County Street and the one over Thumber's crossing by the camp ground to Briggsville. To whom precisely this lot was given does not transpire, but presumably it was set apart for the use of the people of that vicinity as a public cemetery. Tradition says that the donor had some quarrel with those to whom he had tendered the gift, and that he never gave a deed of it. That fact made no difference in its use for the purpose designated, however, and the donor himself is buried there, his gravestone being in an excellent state of preservation. Subsequently Dr. Selma Carpenter bought about half an acre of land and gave it to the yard, reserving a right to be buried in the front part, but this right must have been forgotten or wittingly disregarded, for he and his family are buried a considerable

distance back from the street. At a much more recent date Cyrus Webster and Joseph French made a purchase of land, which they also gave to the society, which, including all additions, comprises about four acres. There seems to have been no attempt to lay out the old portion with any regularity, for the graves are placed without much regard to straight lines or true angles. Much of this disorderly appearance is no doubt due to the changes time unfathomed would inevitably make, for there is no evidence of artless neglect or wanton carelessness. This part is public property, "not one can take to it," but the new portions are laid out into lots to be disposed of in the usual manner, and show marks of care and attention.

The first person buried here was Desire Fuller, who died in 1773, and Mr. Zachariah Carpenter's stone bears the same date. The oldest stones are of black slate, many moss-grown and some sunk nearly half their original height into the ground. Some of the inscriptions are almost entirely illegible and others are traced with considerable difficulty. A large number of lengthy epitaphs are to be found here and a few of them have been copied and will be given, with some names and dates from other stones. Captain Joshua Tiffany and his wife are buried here; Captain Ebenezer Tiffany, who died in 1807 in the seventy-fourth year of his age; his wife, Mrs. Melly, who died in 1825 in the eighty-seventh year of her age; and a Miss Tenty Tiffany, who died in 1789. One finds the name of Bates, Starkey, Lincoln, and again and again Fuller. Dr. Seth Carpenter died March 12, 1804, at the age of seventy-one, and Remondin, his wife, and several children are buried near him. On two stones of the Carpenter family is the curious name of Tople, one the wife of Captain John Carpenter, in whose grave was buried an infant child. There are many Wilmarths buried here, and an enclosed lot on the highest ground in the yard, containing a monument, belongs to a family of that name. Others are Robinson, Booth, Knappton, Hutchins, Freeman, Martin, Read, Atherton, Lothrop, — one named Libaus, — Bessette, Robinson, Allen, Mori, Tiffany, Thorton, — one named Zerkow, — etc. In the new part are several handsome stones and monuments, bearing the same familiar names, many of them, seen in the old part.

Following are the few inscriptions collected: —

In memory of
Mr.
James Tiffany
born June 6th
1730
Aged 76 years
Died on a Sabbath Evening
When Luke was 14 years of age
1806
In memory of Mr.
Benjamin French
who died Nov 18th
1806

79 years 6 months
& 23 Days.

Hark from the tombs a doleful sound,
My ears attend the cry,
Ye living men come view the ground,
Where you must shortly lie.

Given Gratis by Abiel Fuller.

Mr. Ebenezer Wilmarth
died

Jan. 24, 1828
in his 89th year.

A Revolutionary pensioner.

Mrs. Ama Claffin
died in 1833 aged 51.

No more the weary pilgrim mourns,
No more affliction wrings her heart,
Th' unfetter'd soul to God returns,
Forever she and anguish part.

Candace Dexter died in 1838 in the 28th year of her age.

Farewell my dear a short farewell,
For I on earth a while must dwell,
And drop a tear of sorrow,
But not without hope's cheering ray,
That she who fades on earth today,
May bloom in Heaven tomorrow.

In memory
of

Mrs. Anna Read
wife of

Mr. Nathaniel Read.

She died Sept. 1
1840
aged 86 years.

Oh! ever honor'd ever dear adieu,
How many tender names are lost in you.
Keep safe O, tomb! thy precious sacred trust,
Till life, divine, wakes her sleeping dust.

In memory of
Mr.

Nathaniel Read,
who died Dec. 16,
1875

in the 76th year
of his age.

What need the pen rehearse a life well spent.
A man's good deeds is his best monument.

Maria

wife of

John Dvett Peacock,

A daughter of

John Bruster.

A SKETCH OF THE

Mount Hope Cemetery

Yorkville, N. Y.

and April 21, 1850.

April 18, 1850.

A. I. Messrs. & My dear Friend,

My wife's Father has passed from us.

That takes his body into that bright

Land of promise where he now is.

William J. Messrs.

Dear

Oct. 1, 1852.

My dear friend

of this day.

October 1, 1852, Yorkville, N. Y.

We are glad that you are well.

Within a few years an association has been formed, which has taken charge of it, directed by Mr. Joseph C. Thibault is the president of this association. The ground is called "The Dogville Burying Ground."

Towards the middle of this century it became manifestly evident that more burial space was required; the increasing population of North Attleboro, enough rendering such space especially necessary in that vicinity. A public meeting was held, and plans proposed and arranged. Stock was raised and at once subscribed for by about thirty persons. In 1849 these incorporators, who had organized their association under provisions of statute, purchased seven acres of land of Benjamin Freeman and later by purchases from other persons increased the amount of land to about ten acres. These grounds are in the Falls village on the road leading over Mount Hope hill, from which no doubt it derived its name.

The consecration of Mount Hope Cemetery took place July 2, 1850. The services were participated in by several clergymen, and the following poem written for the occasion by Mrs. C. M. Jackson (then Miss Fuller) was

1850.

Here we have gathered together, friends,

Whom we love and wish to see no more.

The ground we have chosen for our graves,

And look for us when coming here.

We come to this place of rest,

That we may rest in peace.

We come to this place of rest,

Here may thy spirit ever be found.

May we all be gathered here,

When we have passed our earthly days.

So long as we are gathered here,

Thou shalt be with us here.

And when we have passed our earthly days,

Let us be gathered here.

May we all be gathered here,

Thou shalt be with us here.

Here may we never doubt or fear,
 But humbly trust parental love,
 And ever cheerfully resign
 Those, whom our Father calls above.

Here may the angel Hope arise,
 With peace, for souls by *sorrow* riven,
 And show them thro' *this* gate there lies
 The nearest, easiest path to Heaven.

The address prepared by the Rev. J. M. B. Bailey, pastor of the First Church, at the request of the proprietors of the cemetery, was read at the dedication by his friend, the author of this book, because he was at the time too much prostrated by feeble health to be able to deliver it. A few extracts are made in memory of the writer, whom numbers in town must still hold in affectionate remembrance.

This is an occasion that excites our emotions. Though the common world be near us, we are secluded. We feel that we have come to this spot, as to one which does not belong to the common acres of the globe. These are no longer common trees, nor this turf the public soil. We are on selected territory, and the rural scenery about us is the drapery of our enclosure, which divides us off from the lawns and fields adjacent. But our isolation does not account for the emotions that thrill our souls. We are in the presence chambers of the Eternal. We are compassed about with a great cloud of witnesses. Departed saints seem to be gazing upon us, as we come here to this dividing line between two worlds, as we gather where the dead enter the vestibule of eternity.

Let all our arrangements have more reference to a resurrection, and the glory that follows, than to what is merely material and ephemeral. Let our selection of places where our friends shall slumber till they shall put on immortality, be made with reference to these solemn realities. Let us choose a place so far removed from the stir and bustle of active life, that the repose of the sleepers there shall not be broken in upon by the noise of business, by the careless tread of those who regard not private right, or the endearments of love. Let it be retired, yet the access easy. Let the spot be diversified with brook and pond and rushing stream, with plain and hillock, with gentle declivity and retiring vale, with sunshine and shade, with the natural forest and the cultivated grove. There let us set the leafy maple, the spreading elm, the towering oak, the modest beech, the native and the foreign evergreen. Make the passage ways open and broad, that no necessity may compel, or carelessness allow, the tombs of the dead to be desecrated or marred. Appropriate a spot for the stranger that dies among you, and let your liberal hospitality grant him a free and an honorable burial. Let not parsimony or speculation or covetousness have any share in the planning, the executing, the adorning or the disposing. Suffer nature to do all that it can; let taste and art bring their contributions and combine their beauties here. Let all its monuments be sacred, its paths, its avenues, its carriage ways. Let all within it, all beneath, all above, even to the stars that shine sweetly down upon it be sacred. Let them be forever hallowed; hallowed to repose, to silent converse with the departed dead. Let all who *alone* pass through these walks, let all who in social intercourse tread their way hither in twilight's gentle hour, or when the moon sheds down her mildest light through these overspreading trees upon the grass, beneath which loved ones lie sleeping; — let all who have been bereaved of partners, of son or daughter, of lover or friend, let them listen, let them receive those lessons that soften, calm and elevate. Let everything connected with, and belonging to, this most interesting place, its trees, its monuments, its grass, its foliage, its evergreens, point the visitor to the resurrection and the life to come. Let them point him to that world where there is no death, no mourning, no sin; where all is eternal freshness, eternal youth; where no destruction wasteth at noonday.

Standing here, I seem to see, coming from yonder cold gloomy vault a company of the dead who have left their burial, that they may here find a more befitting resting place. I see

Upon the stone erected to George Stanley are the following lines from Pope :

A wit's a feather, and a chief's a rod,
An honest man's the noblest work of God.

There are a number of beautiful monuments in this cemetery, bearing the names of prominent men and families. Among the handsomest are those of the Richards family, H. N. Daggett, Oscar M. Draper, and the Freeman brothers, while there are scores of others conspicuous for their beauty or appropriateness.

Within a few years four and a half acres of land have been added to the cemetery on the east side, and it now comprises from twelve to fifteen acres. Since it was first opened it has been handsomely enclosed and much improved, and the grounds are well graded and suitably divided into avenues and paths. The tract has many natural advantages; its surface is happily diversified and portions of it beautifully shaded and adorned by groves of our native forest trees. It is tastefully laid out, and so nature and art have combined harmoniously to make Mount Hope Cemetery the most attractive in town.

There are now two Roman Catholic cemeteries in town. For many years the people of that faith possessed no consecrated ground for this purpose, and all their dead were taken to Pawtucket for interment. About 1850 St. Mary's parish was organized and land for church purposes was purchased, but it was not until a number of years later that the people were able to purchase their first tract of land for burial purposes. This is at the Falls village, south and east of Mount Hope, and is called St. Mary's Cemetery. Already it has many occupants; monuments of various designs dot the surface here and there, and many uplifted crosses glisten and gleam in the sunlight over the rapidly increasing mounds. The greater portion of the burials from the parishes of St. Mary and St. John are made here.

The only other Roman Catholic burying ground in town is the cemetery connected with St. Stephen's Church in Dodgeville and called by the same name.

About twenty-five years ago the necessity for additional burial space in the east part of the town had become imperative, and in 1865 a cemetery association was formed. The first meeting of the association was held on the first of July of that year to take measures for organizing as a corporation, but that idea was abandoned. The number of charter members of the association was fifteen. Shares were issued, the par value of each being \$25, and forty-three of these were taken by the original stockholders, who numbered twenty-three. The first officers elected were J. W. Capron, president, C. E. Hayward, vice-president, A. M. Everett, clerk, John Cooper, treasurer, and J. W. Capron, C. E. Hayward, and L. W. Barnes, trustees. The name selected was "The Woodlawn Cemetery Association." A constitution was

framed and adapted together with willows follows on the fourteenth of July, 1864. This is a private association not incorporated by act of Legislature, and in 1887 the number of shares had increased to six hundred.

Soon after the organization of the association about two acres of land were purchased for a thousand dollars of Mr. Philip Brady. This tract lies at what has long been familiarly called Back-quarry, and is bounded by Mr. Brady's lands, the Bangor River, and the former homestead lot of Mr. William Blackinton, now the property of Mr. Norton. Some two or three years subsequent to the purchase substantial iron gates were erected at the entrance to the ground on North Main Street, and in 1887 a little more than two acres of land were purchased to enlarge the cemetery.

The site of Woodlawn is a cheerful and pretty one, as that of the grounds set apart for "civiles of the dead" ought to be. The surface is broken, portions of it have trees, and the running river is a particularly attractive feature. Many of the lots are tastefully arranged and handsomely stoned, and monuments have been erected to the honored dead lying beneath them. Here as in every similar spot one finds newly inscribed year by year the names of numbers of the best and most prominent men of the town, some having lived out long and useful lives, fully ripe for the sickle of God's reaper, but others, alas! cut down in the prime of lusty manhood just when their vigorous strength seemed most needed in the world's work; and here too one sees markers of the waying days which indicate the soldier's grave. Among the finest monuments are those of the Bliss, Carpenter, and Dean families, and those of Mr. Charles E. Hayward, William Wilmarth, and Emmett Bliss. These are indeed the most conspicuous, but there are many others equally tasteful and appropriate.

The new cemeteries of the town present a most creditable appearance; if the old burying ground could receive the attention they demand and deserve, such attention as is bestowed upon the new ones, there would be nothing left in this line to be desired.

About three quarters of a century ago a small parcel of land was set aside by Mr. Apollon Follett as a family burial ground. It lies on the road leading from Park Street to the Bearcroft Road, between his house—now occupied by his grandson, Walter H. Follett—and the residence of Mrs. Simpson Harvey. There are but seven gravestones in this little yard, all probably that have been placed, as only a few people have been buried there. They are of black slate and contain no elaborate or highly simple inscriptions, and no ornamentation with one exception, a weeping willow being planted upon that of Mrs. Apollon Follett. The small footstones contain the initials of those buried, and in some instances the year of their death. All the stones are in a row and near together, and are in memory of the persons whose names follow:

Mr. Jonathan Follet, who died Dec. 7, 1819, in the 81st year of his age; Mrs. Mary, his wife, who died Dec. 30, 1829, in the 85th year of her age; Mr. Apollos Follett, (his son) who died July 4, 1855, in the 76th year of his age; Mrs. Cynthia, his wife, who died Aug. 9, 1844, in the 63d year of her age; Mr. Apollos Follett, Jr., who died Aug. 5, 1831, in the 24th year of his age; Ferdinand, another son, who died March 24, 1818, aged 10 months and 24 days, and Mary, who died Nov. 14, 1815, aged 4 years, 10 months and 14 days.

It was at the time of the last-named child's death that Mr. Follett made the yard. Another daughter, Cynthia, who married a Mr. Hunt, of Norton, was buried here with her infant child, but was subsequently removed to a yard in Norton by her husband. Still another daughter, a second Mary, who married William Rogers, is buried here; but no stones have ever been placed above their graves, which are fast becoming obliterated. An infant child of Mr. Simpson Harvey was temporarily buried in this place; but no other burials have been made so far as known. The stones are in a fair state of preservation, though somewhat moss-grown, but the ground is in a neglected condition, covered with brambles and tangled grass. The enclosing wall is yet intact but the gate is lacking and all together it is a rather forlorn-looking little spot.

There is another family burial ground not a great distance from the one just mentioned, on the road leading from the "Mugg district" to Briggsville. It is not more than eighteen or twenty feet square and is filled by the ten graves it contains. There are nine stones. These, with two exceptions, are erected to persons of the name of Thayer. The first interment was apparently in 1845, that of Mr. Abiathar Thayer, who died at the age of seventy-seven. His wife Elizabeth died in 1858 in her eighty-sixth year. Another Abiathar died in 1876, aged eighty. Phebe his wife, Ruel, Benjamin L., and Mrs. Joanna Thayer, Mason Harvey, who died in 1849, aged seventy-two, and a child of the name of Hewitt are the others to whom stones are erected. All these stones are of white marble, with the exception of that of Mr. Harvey, which is of black slate. Outside the enclosure there are two graves. One is that of James B. Hewitt; the other has no stone. Three scraggy old trees and a few tiny firs stand within the yard, but they detract very little from the forsaken appearance of the place, a lonesome spot on a lonely road.

Not far away is a similar spot enclosed by a substantial stone and iron fence and containing one grave with a marble headstone, that of Mr. Edwin S. Coombs. It lies on the crossroad from the one just mentioned to that passing the Follett yard, which it joins near the residence of the late Captain Edwin French. Mr. Coombs' place was the "old Coddington farm," the home of Mr. Abiel Coddington.

On the place of the late Dr. James M. Solomon, now occupied by his son, Herbert F. Solomon, there is a small plot of ground which he set apart about fifty years ago as a family burial-place. It contains but a few rods, two sides being surrounded by a stone wall, the other two by a solid iron fence, and the whole shaded by trees of a considerable growth, which he no doubt

[illegible][illegible]

When a hundred years ago a little group of women in the town of Natick, Massachusetts, gathered in a room, known to the world as a burial place. It is the south of the house of the long-haired Mary, who lived the life of the world, and perhaps this is the meeting place that she is. The room is where the first group of women in the world of a little world. It was formerly a room in the house of the first group of women in the world of a little world. The room is where the first group of women in the world of a little world. The room is where the first group of women in the world of a little world.

the surface, scarcely more than six or eight indications of mounds being visible. Two rough, unlettered stones, no doubt marking the head and foot of a grave, are standing; in another place a single stone, and in still another a small bowling, which may also have been a grave-mark. Only three inscriptions are to be found. On a piece of stone lying on the ground can be read, "Mrs. Hannah Hall, Aged 55." The stone is so narrow that only one word could be cut on a line, and the lower part of it, still embedded in the ground, crumbled into fragments when an attempt was made to raise it, so the remainder of the inscription could not be ascertained. This Mrs. Hall, wife of Ephraim Hall, is thought to be the first person buried here.

The second inscription reads:—

I sleep
Buried here
From 18, 1830
at the 30th year
of her age.
I turn to dust as here you see
Pleasant it thus to follow me.

One Hannah Bolkecom was buried here, and in the southeast corner of the little yard a pair of twins and another young child of the same name. The third inscription is as follows:—

In memory of
Mr. Manning B. Wight,
Who died March 8, 1839
at the 33d year of his age.
The gift and of Sarah A. Hilditch
Wife

Buried at the head of the grave in the East

An unlettered stone marks the foot of this grave. Sally Wight, sister to the above, Hilditch Wight; Nathan Bolkecom and Sarah, his wife, were buried here, and Betsy Bolkecom, the latter the last to be interred, and about forty or fifty years ago. The most of the facts relating to this spot were obtained from Mrs. Morse, widow of the late Lorenzo Morse and granddaughter of Nathan Bolkecom. The only other burial, so far as recalled, was that of an infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Morse, who died January 3, 1839, at the age of 14 months and 9 days, in the midst of a storm so severe as to render it impossible to get to the cemetery where other members of the family are buried. Stones were erected to nearly if not quite all who were buried here, but all excepting those mentioned have entirely disappeared and probably by being destroyed, for when the wall was broken down they began to share its fate.

This vicinity is the ancient settling-place of the Bolkecoms. Of the three brothers who came early to this country, one settled here, and large quantities of land were granted at times the descendants of One Daniel, who came (owned

“down to the Fisher neighborhood.” One of them worked for others at this occupation, and was paid in land, one acre for one day’s work. Nathan Bolkeom, when he was a young man, concluded he would go away from home to seek his fortune, which he apparently soon found and brought back with him in the form of a wife, Sarah, — well-named Jewell, — of Haverhill. She came to town with her husband at the age of twenty-four and lived to be ninety-four, in all those seventy years returning but twice to her native town. The women of those days did their full share in the pioneer work in which the men were engaged and found enough to occupy their minds and hands in the daily duties of their humble homes. They had no unhealthy craving for publicity and the so-called necessary “wider sphere,” but were content to spend and be spent in the place where their lot was cast. It is a pity that this woman who was crowned with almost a hundred years of life should have no lasting memorial tablet inscribed with some tribute to her deeds and virtues.

In the village of Briggsville, a few rods from Mr. Vickery’s store, toward the Rehoboth line, on the other side of the road, is a very ancient burial place. One enters a cart-path leading into the woods, follows it a short distance, and then, turning to the right, scrambles through a thicket of low bushes or scrub oaks, filled with brambles and briars, and presently in its very midst comes upon a spot covered with cypress and finds here and there signs of graves. A solitary footstone with a few scarcely traceable letters inscribed upon it appears, and, looking about, the headstone comes into view, with another alongside containing a few readable words. Peering about and parting the branches, one finds a group of graves, one or two upright stones, partly visible, and again, almost hidden by bushes, in a tangle of wild vines and perhaps half-buried by the accumulations of the passing years, another group of two or three with headstones. In a space covering a few rods either way there are evidences of probably quite thirty burials, their places all more or less readily determined by piles of small stones, of the dimensions of mounds, over the bodies of adults, which remind one of the far Western custom of covering freshly made graves in that manner, to prevent the depredations of wild animals. Traces of rows are clear, but they are not on a line with either the road or the path. The spot was perhaps in the early days an attractive one, shaded with great trees and surrounded by the primeval forest, through whose midst the lonely highway ran; but it is now scores of years since it was wholly abandoned to neglect and decay, for, as our informant told us, “The second growth of timber is growing over the place.” The little yard may originally have contained about a hundred feet square, for the graves now visible are all within that amount of space. It is elevated slightly above both the road and path and slopes a little on the other two sides, but there is not the slightest evidence of its ever having been

covered by wall or fence. Very little could be ascertained regarding it, for, while ministers knew of its existence as a former burial place, no one appears to know anything about its origin as such, and no attempts have been made within the remembrance of even elderly people. It is the property of Mr. Joseph L. Wetherill, of Brunswick, and he has no recollection of its use, though deeds relating to the surrounding land. It therefore it was ever formally set apart, the fact has apparently been forgotten.

Very few stones are to be found at the present time, and those still standing will soon disappear if left alone. Possibly some might be found by digging beneath the surface, though attempts made in that direction have met with no result. Other therefore these were some erected at head of the graves, or they have been totally destroyed. Those found are all of black slate, the majority ornamented with cherubs' heads, some of which are very peculiar in their expression, one on almost sad depicted disgust at these forlorn surroundings or discouragement over their melancholy fate. Some twelve or fourteen stones were discovered and their inscriptions copied. The most ancient one is to "Mr. John Titus who departed this life Oct. 9, 1732, in his 30th Year." There are graves beside his, which are perhaps those of his parents, though there is nothing to verify the conjecture. He may have been of the family of Robert Titus, some of whose descendants are living in the East village to-day, one of them, Mrs. J. O. Tiffany, daughter of the late Joseph French a great-granddaughter, and Mr. J. L. Sweet, a great-great-grandson. There are a footstone with no lettering on it, a large stone with the letters "A. D." and "Died in 1743," and a broken one with "A. D." only traceable. The family of the deceased must have carved these inscriptions as a matter of "saving," for the letters are only slightly cut and are almost worn out, resembling in themselves, at the first attempts of a child learning to print.

Several members of the French family were buried here. On the stone of one, "Daniel French" and "1745" only could be read; on another, "Mr Thomas French died June y^r 3, 1746 in y^r 50th year of his age"; and on still another, the full inscription, "In Memory of M^r Christopher French who died July 17, 1755 in his 81st year," apparently; on another stone, "Mr Israel Reed jun. who died Sept. ye 26, 1756, in ye 25 year of his age"; and the fragment showing the hope for year of death or standing. The two best preserved stones are inscribed as follows:—

In Memory of
Joseph French
of East Amherst
who died Feb. 18th 1747
in the 40th year of
his age

In Memory of
Daniel French of M^r
Joseph French, son
died Feb. 28th 1747
in the 40th year of
his age

The fragments of these graves are to be seen.

Six stones bear the name of Wilmarth, and the inscriptions are all traceable without much difficulty. They are as follows: "In Memory of Lieut. Daniel Willmarth, he Died Feb. 17th 1769 in the 54th year of his age." A part of his footstone still remains.

In Memory of
Mr. Jonathan
Wilmarth
who died Sep-
tember ye 14
1756 in ye 67th
Year of his
Age.

In Memory of
Bulah Willmarth
Relict of Mr
Jonathan Willmarth
Died Feb. 14th
1770 in ye 79th
Year of her Age.

Both footstones with names and dates on them are at these graves.

In Memory of
Jonathan Willmarth
Jun. Died April ye 20
1752 in ye 26th Year of
his Age.

Remember me as you pass by
For as you are so once was I
And as I am so must you be
Therefore prepare to follow me.

The stones erected to "Capt. Moses Willmarth," who "died Nov. 16, 1799 in his 68th Year," and to his wife, "Mrs. Elizabeth Wilmarth," who "died Sept. 24 1811 in her 82d year," are in a good state of preservation. He was the great-grandfather of Mrs. Joseph H. Lincoln and was probably the Revolutionary captain. The old homestead of this branch of the family is on what is now Horn Street, near the schoolhouse. With its ancient, well-kept house, with long, low-sloping roof, generous barn, and yard with beautiful elms, it is a noticeable place, one of peculiar New England attractiveness. Wilmarths settled very early in this part of the town, and from them are descended many if not all of the name and connection now in town. Frenches have also been in this vicinity for many years, and as those are the names most numerous in the little graveyard, the families being formerly, perhaps, as in later years connected, it seems reasonable to suppose that members of one or both may have put aside the land for a family or neighborhood burial ground, though possibly, as a Titus was, so far as now known, the first to be buried in it, that family may have devoted it to such uses. The matter is entirely one of conjecture.

It is always sad to see a spot which has been set apart as a resting-place for the dead in any way neglected or disturbed, even when its purpose remains clearly visible; but it is sadder still to find one like this totally abandoned and allowed to return wholly unrestrained to its original state, a natural forest. It would seem as if enough persons could be found among the descendants of these early dead and those interested in the commencement

of the history of our town, to do the work necessary to rescue from utter oblivion this small piece of sacred ground and to preserve the few scattered relics of some of the fathers yet remaining here, before a final "too late" is said.

So far as known to the Editor these mentioned compose all the burial places both public and private in town.

CHAPTER XXII.

TOPOGRAPHY. — DESCRIPTION OF ATTLEBOROUGH, ENGLAND. — EARLY CONDITION OF THE COUNTRY, ETC.

ATTLEBOROUGH is one of the ancient towns of the Commonwealth, incorporated as has been seen in 1694, and at that time comprising what is now the town of Cumberland, R. I. It was the northwest corner of the Old Colony and included a large and valuable tract of country. Within those former limits there is now a population probably of nearly if not quite twenty-five thousand people, engaged in a great variety of employments. The town is bounded on the north by Wrentham, on the east by Mansfield and Norton, on the south by Rehoboth, Seekonk, and Pawtucket, R. I., and on the west by Cumberland, R. I. The latitude of the Second Congregational Church is $41^{\circ} 56' 42.55''$, and the longitude $71^{\circ} 17' 16.86''$. The area by actual survey is reported as $45\frac{83}{100}$ square miles, or 29,331 acres, and is among the largest towns in the State in size. The general surface is level, more generally so than the majority of the towns in the State, though in some sections it is diversified. The westerly and northwesterly portions are more hilly and uneven than the eastern. Of the latter it has been said: "It may be stated, as an illustration of the horizontal surface of this section, that the railroad passes through it, 17 miles from Foxborough, south 36 degrees west, in an exactly straight line to the last crossing of the Ten Mile River, near the cove in Seekonk; and in the whole distance very little excavation or bank filling was required. At the crossing of the road leading from East Attleborough to Foxborough, east side of Bungay Swamp, it is 125 feet above high water mark at Providence, and 129 above that of Boston. From thence, southerly, it falls 5.86 feet per mile. At the station near the meeting-house, it is 123 feet above high water, and the inclination is 8.97 feet per mile. The grade of the road where it crosses the river, near the Dodgeville factory, is 108.33 feet, and the lowest bed of the river 85.41 feet above high water."¹

There are no very high hills in the town. Ten Mile Hill, or as it is now called Mount Hope Hill, is the highest, and its most elevated part "is said to be the highest land in Bristol county." That region was quite famous in the days of Indian warfare, and incidents connected with it have been mentioned previously. The views from this hill are quite extensive and very pretty in several directions. This is especially true of that view which meets the eye looking westward from the summit. At the foot of the hill lies the village of

¹ See Sanitary Survey of Attleborough, published 1856.

South Attleborough, quite embowered in its myriads of beautiful shade-trees, with here and there a roof or chimney peeping above them or a church spire pointing heavenward, while beyond the plain is dotted with thirty farms and comfortable homesteads, and in the far background stretch the gently sloping Cranberry hills. The harsh lines of the manufactories are toned down in the graceful environment of vivid, changing green in the flowing brilliance with which nature surrounds us; one is beyond the sound of the roaring and rattling of engine and wheel, and for the moment the busy, bustling place becomes to the vision that ever picturesque and charming spot, the peaceful, rural New England village of a half-century or more ago. Oak Hill in the southern part of the town is only a slight elevation, but as it rises abruptly from a level plain it is visible from considerable distances in various parts of the town and even beyond its limits. East of the village of Attleborough there is a somewhat curious hilly formation,—that over which the Rehoboth carriage road passes,—a ridge of land, in most places only wide enough for the road, rising quite abruptly from the level on either side. This is appropriately called the Ridge Hill. Its elevation is also slight, but the surrounding territory is so that an extended view is obtained toward the south and west. At one place the village, with its group of factories, its spires and towers, seen through the haze of a summer afternoon, looks like a section of a great city and as if the next turn would bring into sight the whole wide teeming area. But the vision fades with a glance and one scarce has a glimpse even of the village again until its ridge is nearly reached. Rattlesnake Hill and Red Rock Hill near South Attleborough are worthy of mention with the other eminences. The latter is part of a continuous range of ridges running through the westerly part of the territory from northeast to southwest in its general course until it terminates at the Blackstone River.

The rock jutting out from this ridge and exposed to view presents a deep and rather dark red color, which indicates the presence of iron ore in the soil and was caused doubtless by the subjection of the earth in past ages to a high degree of heat. This rock gradually crumbles to dust on exposure to the atmosphere, and in sudden rains dull-colored streams are formed, which flow down the sides of the elevation and over the roads in all directions, dyeing the adjacent soil with its own hue. In the Sanitary Survey above referred to this ridge is called "a strata of graywacke conglomerate soil, of the red slaty variety," and Red Rock Hill "is comprised almost entirely of this variety. It is frequently mixed with other varieties; and Professor Hitchcock¹ supposes that 'beds of limestone, enough to be worked, may be discovered.' Some parts contain 94.6 per cent. of carbonate of lime; sometimes

¹See Hitchcock's *Geological Survey of the Western Part of the State of New York*, p. 100. The following is a list of the localities where the Red Rock Hill is found: South Attleborough, Cranberry Hills, and the Blackstone River. The Red Rock Hill is also found in the Cranberry Hills, and in the Cranberry Hills, and in the Cranberry Hills.

26.8 per cent. of alumina; and being often intermixed with red slate, it would form when polished, a beautiful marble, if masses large enough could be obtained.'” In many places this range obtains some considerable elevation, in others is depressed to the level of the adjoining surface, as if worn away by the corrosions of time, but its soil preserves everywhere the same color. Otherwise the prevailing rock in the town is generally conglomerate, or pudding-stone, with only an unfrequent small ledge of granite. The southern portion of the town has a light, sandy soil and includes an extension of Seekonk Plain, which it is believed by geologists was once covered by the sea.

The general growth of timber is oak, — white, red, black, and yellow, — walnut, birch, white pine and black; the lowlands include maple, birch, beech, some ash, elm, chestnut, and cedar. Scattered here and there all over the town are many beautiful elms, some of them very large and some very old; again and again these may be seen throwing their long pendent branches in a graceful and protecting manner over old homesteads, as if expressing a desire to defend them from the destroying hand of man and from the ravages of time. Maples, which grow rapidly and luxuriantly, are much planted for shade trees, and in some of the village streets their broad-spreading branches have intertwined and in the summer time form beautiful arches of dense, green foliage overhead.

There are indications of coal in some parts of the town: these extend from Foxborough through Mansfield, Attleborough, and Cumberland. The coal is of the anthracite variety and was mined in Cumberland about 1830 and used to some extent. Shafts were sunk in Mansfield many years ago, and in later years boring was again tried, but the layers reached were found to be too thin for profitable mining. A deeper penetration beneath the surface might perhaps discover a more abundant supply, should the demand ever make further attempts in this vicinity a necessity. At the time of the settlement of the town the surface was largely covered with timber. This was principally white oak of a large growth and suitable for ship building. Portions of the low lands on the banks of the streams were open and produced a growth of wild or meadow grass, and some spots had been cleared and cultivated by the Indians. The streams abounded in fish and the forests in certain species of game. According to tradition bears and rattlesnakes were occasionally found. Rattlesnake Brook and Rattlesnake Hill, before mentioned, and Bear Swamp, now called Bearcroft, in the eastern part of the town, are names preserved to the present time and would seem to confirm the tradition. The probable origin of the last-mentioned name can still be traced. In the old house on Pleasant Street, owned by the late Jacob Briggs, there lived something over a hundred years ago one Caleb Parmenter; and his wife, Elizabeth Parmenter, shot a bear from one of its west windows. The animal doubtless came from the woods or swamp lying

adjacent to the house, and the holes given to the region would seem to be the natural result of the incident. Fish being an important article of food among the natives, they had a number of fishing stations in this region, such as Wawsoopotsong (the place of nets), Little Squisset and High Squisset, Mamentapett, Samochiticoonet, etc. Their rude tools and stone arrows, axes, pestles, mortars, and other articles have frequently been found and are sometimes to this day in plowing the grounds they once occupied.¹ The surface of the land in Attleborough is similar to that of many other New England towns, diversified in its scenery, comprising large portions of fertile and valuable soil and other portions of what is called waste land, unimproved. Much of the surface which has not been subdued or cultivated is still covered with wood, probably more than one third of the whole. There are, as formerly, some swamps and low and wet lands, but a large part of the soil consists of a gravelly and sandy loam. There is much good agriculture in the town and abundance of fruit and vegetables, which find a ready market in the different manufacturing villages.

The rivers are worthy of notice not so much for their size as for the valuable water privileges which they afford. These are now and, since some of the very earliest settlements were made, have been used for manufacturing purposes. There are several streams of water in the town, the principal of which is the Ten Mile River. This name was given to it very early, though it would seem with but little propriety. It has its source in the farm of the late Mr. John Fuller, in the southern part of Wrentham, about a mile from the Attleborough line, and running in a generally southerly direction through the length of this town and through Seekonk, empties into Seekonk Cove, an arm of Narragansett Bay, now called Seekonk River. Its length in this town is some thirteen miles, its entire length twenty-two miles. In its passage through the town it falls about one hundred and thirty-two feet. "In an average current it discharges about 50 cubic feet of water per second." Its average width is two rods and a half. This stream is exceedingly important to the interests of the town, for on it still are many of our principal manufacturing establishments. There are within the limits of the town ten falls on this stream, which has furnished water-power to many of the factories, to small cotton mills, saw and grist mills, etc., such as were scattered over Massachusetts years ago. At one time long since there were fifteen of these, one in Wrentham, ten in Attleborough, and four in Seekonk. Truly there are, no doubt, more factories in number along the line of this little river and of a size and finish to astonish the log-built grist-mill and the rude saw-mill of the early days. The next stream in size

¹ A more recent tradition has recently been on the topic of the lake which at this spot. It was named *Wawsoop*, the place where the fish were taken. The name of the lake was *Wawsoop* and the place where the fish were taken was *Wawsoop*. The name of the lake was *Wawsoop* and the place where the fish were taken was *Wawsoop*.

is Seven Mile River. This "traverses the westerly part of the town, from north to south," and unites with the Ten Mile River a little above Kent's factory near the Pawtucket line. Its entire length is about ten miles, "and it discharges about 15 cubic feet a second." The third or fourth stream in size is the Bungay, said sometimes to have been pronounced *Bungay*, accent on the last syllable, and sometimes Bungee. This has its source in the northerly part of the town near the Mansfield line, a little below the Witch Pond, and after a journey of about five miles over an unusually level bed falls into the Ten Mile River nearly in the centre of the town, between the Farmers and Mechanics factories. Originating in a number of springs, it is an unfailing stream at all seasons of the year, but its current is sluggish and it discharges only "about 10 cubic feet per second." Another small stream called Abbott's Run¹ rises in the northeasterly part of Cumberland and crossing the line several times between that town and this empties into the Blackstone River just below Valley Falls. Its length is about four miles. There are two or three other streams which have been deemed worthy of names: Four Mile Brook, about three and a half miles long, and Chartley Brook, three miles long, while a tiny stream, which runs quietly along for some distance through fields and meadows and crosses the road not far from the Agricultural Association grounds, was called Rattlesnake Brook.

There are no natural ponds of any considerable size in town, but numbers of artificial ones have been formed by the construction of dams to meet the requirements of the manufactories in various places, and among these are several which may justly be called very pretty. First in point of size and beauty is the Falls Pond, which is divided into two portions by a carriage road, and which to the casual observer at least presents most of the features of a picturesque natural lake, while the "Reservoir" if not so familiar would seem to us an attractive body of water, for it is in miniature like many a wild mountain lake, which people have traveled miles to see. There are several low swamps or meadows in town of a greater or less extent, of which the most considerable is the "Bungay Great Swamp," as it is called in some of the ancient deeds, or sometimes the "Cedar Swamp." It lies on both sides of the river and extends from the village of Attleborough to the reservoir. Near the sources of the Bungay is a pond which was originally separate, but is now connected with the reservoir by the cutting many years ago, in 1833, of a channel from it to the head of the stream. It is called "Witch Pond" and is an extensive quagmire, including about fifteen acres, only a small part of which is covered with water. It is rather singular in its appearance and may be justly considered a curiosity. A hard bottom has

¹ Said to have derived its name from one Abbott, a boy who was drowned there in the early settlement of the place. It is supposed by some that the Indian name of the place was Wawepoonseag, but this is doubtful conjecture.

never been discovered in any part of it. In some places it will at first bear the weight of a man, but if he stands for a time he will gradually sink till he is unable to extricate himself.

The topography of our town contains nothing very peculiar as has been seen, and it is therefore needless to enlarge upon it, as is often done in the sketches of towns. Suffice it to say that in this respect it is similar to most towns in this vicinity, that its surface presents the usual diversity of hills and vales, that its soil embraces much land that is poor and unproductive, that is good, and that its natural and agricultural products are the same as those of neighboring towns. It has, however, one peculiar characteristic. Various causes, such as the great extent of territory, the location of all houses somewhat widely separated on the same or on separate rivers, "and the genius and pursuits of industry of the inhabitants," generally diffused and not confined to any one locality, "have given rise to several one-sided villages in different sections of the town, and prevented any one from becoming a common centre for the whole." This was more especially true fifty years ago when these words were written, but subsequently, as is well known, there came to be two large and thriving rival centres, and these became each the leading centre of its town when the division was made.

Atholborough derived its name without doubt from the town of Atholborough in Norfolk County, England. Some of our early inhabitants emigrated to this country from that region, settling at first in several different places, but finally a few of them are known to have come to Rehoboth, and, afterwards becoming interested in the purchase and settlement of this territory, there is every reason to suppose that when it became a town they suggested and bestowed the name in remembrance of their native place. This origin of the name is confirmed by the circumstance that in the English town there is a river called Bungay,¹ at about the same time as the one of that name in this town, and a town of the same name, Bungay, is in the near vicinity. One Thomas Daggett² came to this country from Atholborough, England, and he is supposed to be the brother of John, the first³ proprietor of the Daggetts of Massachusetts and Connecticut. A John Sutton,⁴ with his wife and four children, also came from that place. His daughter, Anne, married John Daggett, a son of that John who, so far as is known, was the first to lay out lands at the Falls.⁵ It is therefore both natural and reasonable to

¹ See *Green River*, p. 100, and *London*, p. 100.

² Thomas Daggett, and three sons, emigrated to a purchase of land, belonging to Sam. Knapp, Sept. 25, 1635, but before settling there.

³ John Daggett, from Atholborough, in Wiltshire, first wrote and resided in the Vermont, and thence moved to the New Hampshire and New York. He died in 1680, and his son, John, died in 1700, and his son, John, died in 1720.

⁴ John Sutton, from Atholborough, Wiltshire, first wrote and resided in the Vermont, and thence moved to the New Hampshire and New York. He died in 1680, and his son, John, died in 1700, and his son, John, died in 1720.

⁵ John Daggett, from Atholborough, Wiltshire, first wrote and resided in the Vermont, and thence moved to the New Hampshire and New York. He died in 1680, and his son, John, died in 1700, and his son, John, died in 1720.

decide that these people, with probably others from the same vicinity in the old country, gave its name to our town.

The derivation of the name is "At-le-burgh," meaning at the borough, fort, or castle — "Atleburgh." In a work entitled "Bloomfield's Norfolk," published in 1739, volume i, page 501, may be found the following: "Atleburgh. This Place without doubt hath been very famous in early Times as all the Authors that speak of it unanimously agree." The author then goes on to say: "I think the present name shows its signification, which, it will be proper to observe hath suffered but little change from the time of the Conqueror to this day. Atleburc, — burg, or borough is the same, and it being certain that the term burg or borough (as we now pronounce it) always signifies a castle, fort, or such like as the learned Spelman in his *Icenia* justly observes, we may conclude that it was called At-le-burgh, or the town at the burg, or the borough town from its being situated by an ancient burgh or fortification and from its being larger and of more repute at that time than its neighbors." According to one John Brame, a monk of Thetford, who, many years before the writer above quoted, wrote a history of that region: "It was sometime not only a city, but the metropolis of all Norfolk, founded by Atlinge,¹ then King of that Province in order to oppose Rond King of Theodford, and by him fortified with a ditch, wall, four gates and four towers; and from this Atlinge he would have it called Atlinge's Burgh or Atleburgh." Bloomfield does not, however, credit that story, as he finds, he says, "no appearance or remains of any such walls, gates, or towers," and some would, he is sure, have remained until his day had the city possessed such considerable fortifications. He therefore considers that the burgh from which the name came was a fortification of hills only, such forts having been made during some of the early invasions of that portion of the country — its low and fen lands having no natural hills to be fortified. Still another writer thinks that the town was formerly called Ethelingburgh, "because it might belong in the time of the Saxons to some eminent nobleman of that name, who was nearly related to the Saxon kings, and had his residence here, being induced to think thus, because this part belonged to the crown till the Conqueror's time."

The real date of the founding of the place would seem to be shrouded in more or less mystery, but the following quaint record, quoted by Bloomfield from some "ancient book" will serve to show that its foundations were laid at a very early period in England's history: "In the Year 844, Edmund, Son of Alkmund King of Saxony, was born at Noremburg in Saxony, of Queen Suinara, and soon after it happened that Offa, King of the East Angles, who

one who laid out lands at the Falls. History of the Doggett-Daggett family, by Samuel B. Doggett, published 1894, in Boston.

¹The Editor was not able to find the date when that king is supposed to have reigned, but it was probably not many centuries after the Christian era.

and came into this possession "very early if not in the time of the Conqueror," with whom the family, of French extraction, is said to have come into England.

The founder of the first church in Attleborough is not known, but one Sir Wm. de Mortimer made the first alterations and previous to the year 1297. In 1386 Sir Robert de Mortimer, knight, "designed the foundation of a chantry or college in the parish church, to the honor of the exaltation of the holy cross; but being prevented by death, his executors or trustees built and endowed the same for a master or warden and four secular priests, about the seventh year of Henry IV." Sir Robert died in 1387 and was buried in the church, and it is said the priests were to sing in the chapel forever for his and his wife Margery's soul. In the year 1402 the estate of the Mortimer family was divided, and this manor, through marriages probably in the female line, came into possession of the Earls of Sussex,¹ a family very familiar in later English history. Many famous persons it is said have been buried in the church, and at one time it contained many monuments of the families of Mortimer, Blickly, and Ratcliffe.² Attached to the church organization were what were called "The Great" and "The Little Rectory Manor," the former containing the first and second, and the latter the third part of the town. After the place ceased to be the capital of Norfolk County, it was divided into Attleburgh Major and Attleburgh Minor, but later these were again united under one name. Some turbulent people dwelt aforetime within the confines of the old town, for an insurrection of the common people against the gentry, which occurred June 20, 1549, began at Attleborough and other places, and it assumed no mean proportions, for the insurgents became 20,000 strong. It was called "Kitt's rebellion." The town had early an endowed school and several other educational institutions, and an ancient "Gild" where the poor were relieved is mentioned. Near the town are the remains of an obelisk erected to the memory of Sir Edward Rich, who in 1675 gave £200 towards the formation of a highway between "Attleburgh" and Wymondham, for which an act was obtained "in the seventh year of Wm. III."³ and which is said to have been the first turnpike

¹ Robert, Earl of Sussex in time of Henry VIII, spoiled portions of the church building, "pulled up many fair, marble gravestones of his ancestors with monuments of brass upon them, and other fair, good pavement, and carried them and laid them for floors, in his hall, kitchen and larder house," he also "got 14 crosses and as much town plate as was then worth 100 l from the church," by that means reducing the church to ruins. The old recorder very justly calls him "of a covetous disposition."

² In "The Burnham Rolls" was found the following amusing record: "In Attleburgh Church lies the famous Captain Gibbs who was a great gamester and horse racer in Charles II's time, and of whom the greatest exploit recorded was how he 'laid a wager of £100 that he drove his night chaise and four horses up and down the steepest part of the Devil's Ditcher, Newmarket Heath', which he performed by making a very light chaise with a coated perch and without any pole, to the surprise of all the spectators."

³ The above is quoted from a "British Gazetteer" published in 1852, but there seems to be an error in its record. Charles II was king of England in 1675, and according to Appleton's Encyclopædia the first turnpike act was passed in that year, the sixteenth of his reign. The reign of William III did not commence till 1689. The fact given is worthy of notice, and therefore this correction is made.

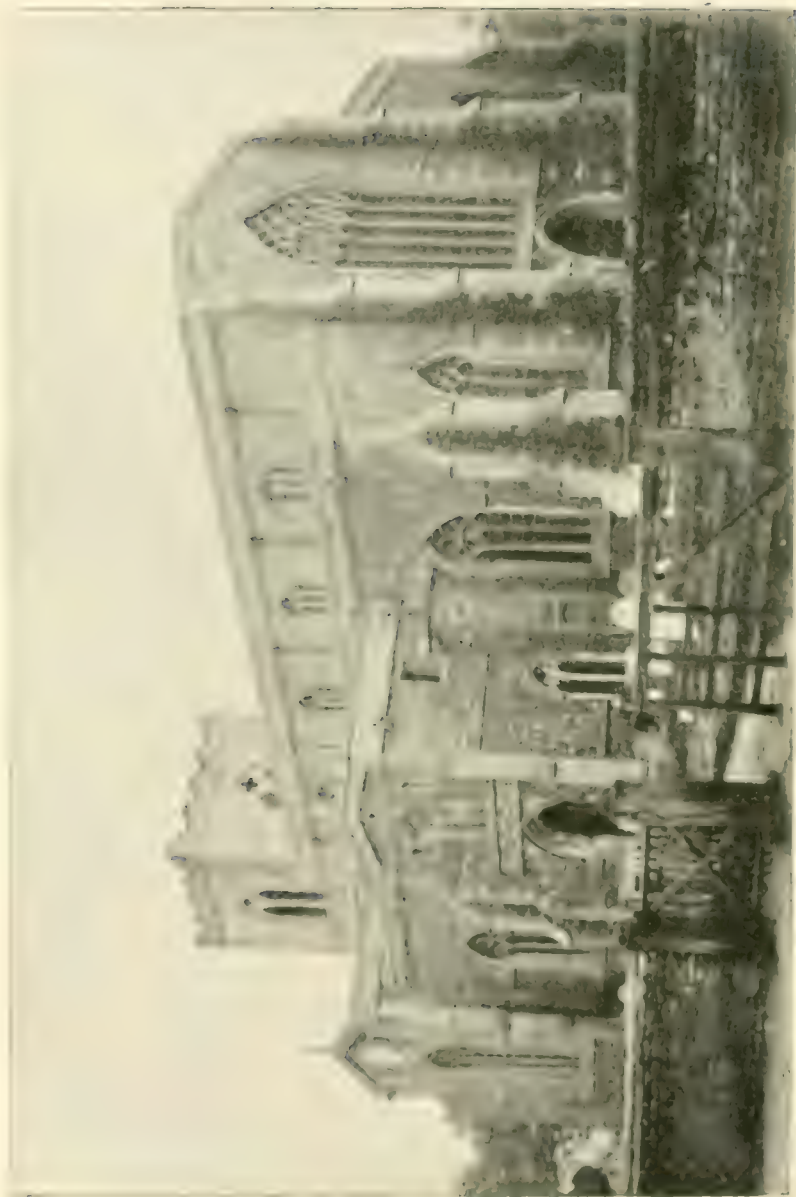


FIG. 1. ABBEY OF ST. ALBAN, HERTS.

Oh send out thy light and thy truth.

King David.

May every subject in my dominions possess a Bible, and be able to read it.

King George III.¹

In the summer of 1884 the Editor had the pleasure of visiting Attleborough, Old England, no doubt the first among the descendants of its emigrants (or those of the near vicinity) to this town who has done so. Certainly its ancient glories have departed, and its former grandeur is but a fast-fading memory. There could scarcely be a greater contrast than exists between it and either one of the large, central villages of its namesake in New England to-day. Nothing in an English village ever seems to look new and fresh; our typical white, wooden house, with its green blinds and shading elms, or the gayly painted "Queen Anne" cottage is entirely unknown. All the English houses are built of brick or stone or sometimes of a combination of cobblestones and stucco, and even in the process of erection they look old. Everything bears the stamp of accumulated years; even the flowers in the dooryards and gardens seem to have bloomed and faded and bloomed again in the same places and in the same staid and decorous manner for many succeeding generations. Still the time-worn look never degenerates into the appearance of neglect, everything looks trim and thrifty, order and cleanliness prevail, and the impression that the old age is a hale, hearty, and cheerful one is unmistakable.

Attleborough has a railroad, but running so far outside the village that within its precincts the rush of the trains can scarcely be heard. We saw no traces of manufacturing; no hum of business or rustle of trade reached our ears; hardly a person, either man, woman, or child, was to be seen in the street; even the unusual appearance of strangers evidently from afar aroused no manifestation of curiosity, for the entire place continued during our stay to be as quiet as if the most rigid, puritanical Sabbath had suddenly settled down upon it. It is a rambling, straggling sort of village of possibly two to three thousand inhabitants,² with one long, winding street through the centre, lined on either side with low buildings, none exceeding two stories in height. Within the length of two or three ordinary city blocks we counted twelve or fifteen public houses, conclusive proof that market-days must still be in vogue, when bountiful refreshment is needed both by man and beast, and showing that this is no doubt amply provided, so far at least as liquids are concerned, for each "public" was licensed to sell "beer, wine, and

¹ The book from which this description was taken is entitled "Snoaks and Corners of Old England," not a recent publication.

This surname has since been proved to be nearly correct. In 1849 the population of the town was estimated to be 2,252. It contained 372 houses. Its area is 3,800 acres and about 1850 the assessed property amounted to \$75,577, not quite \$80,000. Appraisers in 1884 reported that those figures would apply at the present time without material change.

noticed." One need flow but a single drop to the effect that the school of time was certainly a first establishment in Soudby, and the incumbent found this apparently to coincide with his duty as a herald of the "art of another age,"—the appropriated term, he was not in doubt. There were several more signs with, perhaps, distinctive signs exposed for sale, but we have not time for these miscellaneous signs of business in this so-called Market village, where all attempts to find the business supplied in kind nothing. We saw but one lawyer's office and but one doctor's sign in our stroll through almost the entire length of the village. The people, as everywhere, must be either very miserable and extremely healthy, or pitifully ignorant of the requirements of the present enlightened age in the directions controlled by members of these professions. Our town is first of great advantage in these times of recession with its half-dozen teachers in the marvelous intricacies of the law and its nearly two dozen guides among the devious paths and diverse methods of the healing art.

At the entrance to the village on our journey from the railway station stands the church, conspicuous for size and much larger than any such structure in our town. It is built in a rather curious fashion of a combination of both rough and smooth stones, and it presents a quaint and picturesque appearance in its setting of green sward and clustering tombstones. It is spoken of as "a fine collegiate edifice, in the form of a cross, with a tower rising at the intersection." This was the only church building we saw and it looked venerable enough to be, as in its present condition it is said to be, something over two hundred years old. The old church which stood here it would seem almost "from time immemorial" was, we were told, considerably battered in Cromwell's time and was subsequently rebuilt in its present form. The interior is extremely plain, even to bareness, has no stained glass windows, and possesses nothing of interest but an old wooden altar screen upon which are painted the coats-of-arms of the twenty-four English bishops. The following record from a parish register, which begins in 1552, seems to refer to this screen: In 1615 some repairs were made by one John Forbes, "who set up the Bishopricks Arms in the Church, and those of the Colleges." The screen now faces the altar at the opposite end of the church, where it forms the front of a small gallery. We wandered about for some time among the graves in the little churchyard but found no further signs of the past. There were many very ancient tombstones. A small narrow gate leads from this spot directly to the rectory grounds, but the incumbent had but recently entered upon his duties and would not probably have had any special knowledge of the former history of the place or people, therefore we did not venture to present ourselves before him soliciting information. We were informed that it is at present very difficult to find any clergyman willing to accept the living, as it is not so much as to be able to "navigate with" "And" (the clergy are called) and a knowledge of the art of the sea.

steps of the great ones of the past. Forty years ago the Methodists, Baptists, and Society of Friends had places of worship in the town, but we saw nothing resembling Dissenting chapels in the region we explored.

We inquired of the old woman sweeping the church which might be the best public house where we could lunch and were directed to a certain one as the "least disreputable." Somewhat dismayed we crossed the street and found ourselves at the undertaker's door, but no amount of ringing or rapping brought even the faintest response from any living thing. The wide-open door invited our entrance, and we crossed the threshold but awakened only echoes along the hallway and from the stone-flagged floor of the empty eating-room. It was as silent there as any typical undertaker's dwelling could ever hope to be, and every member of the household had apparently lent himself to the maintenance of the proper degree of decorous and tomb-like silence. The pangs of a very real American hunger were fast becoming paramount to all other feelings and forced us to try our fate elsewhere. All the other places were said to be "worse" than this first one indicated: so what matters it which one is tried? Again we crossed the street and rapped vigorously at another door. A tidy, fresh-looking young English girl promptly answered our summons and asked our pleasure. "Can we get some lunch?" "What would you like?" "What have you?" "We can give you a chop" — the almost invariable formula in a small English country inn and very speedily the typical and appetizing meal is served in a well-appointed dining-parlor. Perfect chops, perfectly cooked, the cottage loaf on its round board with knife beside it, the Cheddar cheese as good as the bread, the pot of delicious tea, and if desired the mug of foaming home-brewed ale. So excellent was the luncheon prepared for us in this unassuming little "public," and so well and neatly served, that we were fully persuaded the old woman in the church was possessed of sinister motives or personal spite and had, one and all, basely belied the inns of her native place. Though very antiquated the old town has not lost all her youthful cunning or forgotten all her useful knowledge, for her skill in cooking, if old in fashion, is still superior, and we feel sure that so far as the entertainment of her inns is concerned she can vie with her namesake of the new world in the serviceable and delightful art of making guests comfortable and satisfied.

The ancient castles of this region must needs have been strong fortifications, for the surrounding country affords no natural advantages in the way of defence. It is for the most part decidedly level, though here and there it becomes undulating, resembling somewhat the formation of the rolling prairies of our West. Its surface is not, however, wholly unlike that of our town, the lack of hills considered. The trees appear to be more or less stunted in their growth and are not so numerous as with us, yet many general resemblances in the scenery may be recognized. We drove six or eight miles to see the great "Winfarthing Oak," and our way lay through a succession

of coast for the farms. The bar-leaves were numerous, frequently half-crown, and there were small spaces to begeth them on the ground, and the grain appeared to be equally abundant to its field. We tramped swiftly along over roots so thoroughly and hard as if iron-plated and laid out for the most part in straight lines, overlooking a spot of forest as that paper, as it seems to be in ours. We passed through only one village in the entire length of our drive. Its little central square was mostly covered by a narrow pond, and houses, trees, and villages were meeting us of it as a general recreation ground in the most cheerful and friendly manner. We caught sight first of the lesser oak, which is visible from a great distance over the surrounding plain, stretching its gaunt and almost leafless branches defiantly toward heaven. Our giants of the forest would be but dwarfs by its side,¹ and it in turn is a pygmy compared with its greater neighbor. The size of that one has not been exaggerated. It would doubtless measure seventy feet around the exposed roots, and the trunk, though increased in size by its ivy covering, looked to be forty feet in circumference some considerable height above the ground. The inside is now filled with rubbish, but the cleared space would well bear three people comfortably. The old tree is fast going to decay and falling in several places, though it is propped with strong iron bands. From the inside we could see one huge knot still alive, out of which great leafy branches were growing vigorously — large trees in themselves. The present tenant of the surrounding farm was our guide to this interesting spot upon the property, and he told us that the immediate predecessor of his grandfather upon the place was the Mr. Doggett who put the inscription upon the tree. All traces of the inscription are gone, but a box still remains attached, bearing a request for offerings, not for the Bible Society, but for the *mission of the poor*. One of the greatest of these general and personal interest in this glorious old monarch of the woods was about to drop in a half-crown when our host interposed, saying that nothing above a shilling was ever expected from any visitor. This was in marked contrast to the owner of our trap, who demanded nearly double the bargained price for its use on our return to the inn where we hired it. We drove back through the softened sunshine, — it is never glaring in England, — thinking if the hedges were turned into stone walls, if the houses were built of timber, and a wooded hill rose here and there, the appearance of the country would be by no means unfamiliar. The emigrants in selecting what is now Attleborough, Mass., for their new home may certainly have been reminded of the scenery of the old home left behind. But beyond a certain general resemblance, which nature furnishes to-day as formerly, all comparison must cease. The

1. The oak is not a native of the island, but was introduced by the first settlers, and is now the most common tree in the country. It is not a native of the island, but was introduced by the first settlers, and is now the most common tree in the country. It is not a native of the island, but was introduced by the first settlers, and is now the most common tree in the country.

new Attleborough is busy, enterprising, progressive — in a word thoroughly alive; the old Attleborough is inert, stagnant, dying, with not enough life remaining to be ever again aroused to any degree of bustle and activity. But this is only the result of the natural order of things. The same laws of decadence govern the town, the city, that govern the nation: all rise but to fall in time. The same old processes have been at work there, but the name still remains, and we may be proud that it is one which in ages past became famous, and that our mother town once took high rank among her compeers in promoting and advancing both agricultural and industrial pursuits.

The first inhabitants of our town were a substantial and respectable class of people. They were, like most of the settlers of the other towns of the Old Colony, emigrants from England; seldom any of them were from Scotland and Wales. They were the right men and women to subdue and cultivate a new country and plant the civilization of their native land in this wilderness, to introduce and improve upon here the institutions, both political and religious, in which they had been educated in their native land. They were characterized by great simplicity in their habits. Industry and economy were the prevailing traits of the people, and their plain style of living contributed much to their health and longevity. Even when means afforded opportunity, there was among our fathers less of that false pride which engenders the love of display, which is so prevalent in the present age. They lived more in accordance with the laws of nature, and there is no doubt that there was generally more true happiness among the masses. The present age is without doubt one of great advancement as compared with the earlier ones, but the generation which amassed great fortunes in an hour, rushed as speedily into wild extravagance in speech, deportment, and manner of living, and these things are not yet "fast passing away." We might well retrace some of our steps and sit down humbly at the feet of the fathers, to learn from their lips many a sober and earnest lesson in the way of true and honest living, to hear and heed many a prudent precept to guide us in the paths of true wisdom and understanding.

In looking back over the early history of our town and, in a measure, of the country, it is very natural to inquire what were the existing conditions on the arrival of our forefathers, and what were the natural productions which could afford them temporarily the means of living. The country was called a wilderness, which in one sense was a true designation, but the impression that the surface was entirely covered with an unbroken forest is erroneous. Although a large part was covered with a permanent growth of wood and heavy timber, yet a considerable portion was open land, which had been cultivated by the natives in their rude forms of husbandry from time immemorial, and on the margins of the brooks and rivers a coarse meadow grass grew in abundance, which was at first used for the support of the cattle. The first white men found a variety of wood or timber: four kinds of oak,

white, yellow, black, and red, differing in the soft, lichen, and solid; moss and, also, yellow, brown, black, asparagus, juniper, cypress, willow, spruce, glaucous, white and green, the latter forming lampbrush, bar, etc., with other materials for building eggs and houses. They found also a variety of wild animals, such as bears, wolves, foxes, several sorts of deer, weasels, otters, marten, skunks, wood thrush, and both grey and white (great) squirrels (a great kind of them), and the old Americans used also the flying squirrel. These animals furnished them the most abundant and profitable source of trade with the Indians for many years after the earliest settlement. On our shores was found a great variety and abundance of sea fish. One of our chroniclers mentions that he saw "great store of whales and grampuses, and such abundance of mackerel as astonished him." Codfish were also plentiful, and a celebrated fish, "the most sweet and delicious fish he ever met and eat, which is altogether as good as our fresh salmon." Plenty of fish called scate by our forefathers and thornback were found, and abundance of lobsters the old chronicler records, "and the least boy in the Plantation may both catch and eat what he will of them. For my own part I was soon cloyed with them, they were so great, and fat, and luscious. I have seen some myself that have weighed sixteen pounds, but others have had divers times so great lobsters as have weighed twenty-five pounds, as they have assured me." The seashore abounded also in shell-fish: clams, quahogs, oysters, and other varieties of excellent quality; and the streams and ponds were supplied with a variety of fresh-water fish. There was a great variety of natural fruits and nuts: strawberries, raspberries, mulberries, plums, currants, huckleberries, gooseberries, chestnuts, walnuts, hazelnuts, butternuts, wild cherries, and grapes hanging on the limbs of the trees in great festoons in the woodlands, with various other small nuts and fruits. The fields were decorated with a fair variety of flowers, and among them were found the single damask rose in bloom, and this must therefore have been native to the country. Wild fowl were found in abundance, to supply food for the table: "partridges larger than those in England, as big as our hens; wild turkeys found in the woods, which are very fleshy and fat, for they have an abundance of food, as strawberries found everywhere in summer, and other berries and fruit." Great flocks of pigeons filled the air in the winter time, wild geese were innumerable, and wild ducks and other sea-fowl filled the ponds. "at that time the wealth of the wild (timber) country. For a great part of the winter the planters have eaten nothing but roast meat of divers fowls which they have killed." The early settlers found that in the spring alewives, fish resembling herrings, ran up the brooks and rivers in this town to spawn, and these streams were plentifully supplied with various small freshwater fish.

Having glanced at the state of the country, it is natural also and may now be supposed that it was at the time of the first settlement and before what was

the character and condition of the natives of these regions on which our forefathers settled. The land on which we of Attleborough now dwell was then the domain of the tribe of Wampanoags. At the time of the landing of the Pilgrims in 1620, the territory they claimed and occupied was called Pawkanawket — Pokanoket — and extended from Mount Hope Bay to Wrentham, including a portion of that ancient town. It probably extended over the whole of the Old Colony and was then governed by the "Good Massasoit the friend of the English." At the time this town was settled by white men there was no permanent residence of the natives within its borders, though the relics found in various parts of the town turned up by the plow-share and the condition of portions of the soil are indications that formerly Indians had dwelt in certain localities. They had planted small tracts; and there were places of resort for the purposes of hunting and fishing, places of nets and snares. They straggled over the region occasionally and probably had temporary residences in their accustomed haunts during a few weeks or months in the summer season; indeed, tradition points to a rocky cave on Mount Hope Hill near the residence of the late George Price as one of these occasional places of habitation. Like all barbarous peoples they changed their habitations from place to place, living in the rudest simplicity and often suffering great hardships as a consequence of their wanderings. "Their shelters," says an old writer, "are small and homely, made with small poles pricked into the ground, and so bound and fastened at the tops, and on the sides they are matted with bows, [boughs] and covered on the roof with sedge and old mats; and for their beds they have a mat." These rudely constructed wigwams were but an imperfect protection against the storms of the severe winters. Says the old writer again, in referring to the aborigines: "They are a tall, strong-limbed people, and their color is tawny. They are partially clothed in beasts skins. Their hair is generally black, and cut before like our gentlemen, one lock longer than the rest. For their weapons they have bows and arrows, — some of them headed with bone, and some with brass." Their meats were furnished by such wild game as they could secure with their bows and arrows or by snares; fish supplied a considerable portion of their means of living, and they had the fruits and nuts which the soil produced naturally and abundantly.

The Indians planted corn in the more pliable soils. This was done in the rudest manner by digging small holes in the ground with such unskilfully constructed implements as they could themselves manufacture, and dropping the kernels into them. This "maize" pounded into meal in an awkward way and formed into cakes, which they baked in the ashes or by heated stones, made one of their principal articles of food and was their only kind of meal. Besides the ashes made by annually burning the fields, they manured the corn with fish, when near enough to the seashore to obtain them. In this way they often raised tolerable crops and frequently traded them to the whites.

Sometimes, however, there was a lack, and they themselves would suffer for want of this food. They were a wholly independent people and often like wild animals in their modes of eating. When there was an abundance they feasted even to gorging themselves, and when there was a scarcity they fasted even to the verge of starvation, but they never learned to provide for possible dearth in the time of plenty. Their other productions were beans, pumpkins or pumpkins, and squashes, all apparently indigenous. Their cooking was of the simplest—hot ashes, heated stones, and fires upon the ground their means, and roughly made pots and pans of clay their only utensils, for they had no iron until after the advent of the Pilgrims. How they baked beans is known to almost every man, woman, and child on the New England coast to-day. They also baked their beans, white beans and corn, baked together, and seasoned with clams when these could be obtained, constituted that famous dish called succotash, a dish not to be lightly treated even by epicures. For these three dishes, so celebrated not only throughout New England but all over the land, and so welcome to every true son of that eastern soil, wherever he may be, we are indebted to the aborigines.

Savage and ferocious as these people were as a race, some among them possessed noble and attractive qualities; cruel and relentless to foes, they were faithful and devoted to family and friends, if necessary even to the death. They were trained to great physical endurance, and they bore the most excruciating pain, suffered the most cruel hardships, and endured the deepest agonies of sorrow in stern, uncomplaining silence. Many of them possessed a good sort of beauty, which they enhanced by the barbaric goodness of their personal decorations. Their language was musical in sound, and they gave expression to their thoughts in short but poetic phrases; and they were not devoid of religious beliefs. Their youths were taught to possess and maintain the greatest respect for the elders and chiefs of the tribes; and all advancement to places of prominence or responsibility in the conduct of their affairs must be meritoriously earned before it could be obtained—two customs worthy of imitation by the children of their usurpers. Their manners were sober and dignified, their speeches full of an untutored but effective eloquence; and a council of their great sachems gathered in one of nature's grand forest temples must have formed a highly impressive scene. If we may believe the early writers, the dignity and grave propriety which characterized the proceedings of these assemblies might well be copied in some of the highest council-chambers of the land, even in this universally named enlightened and civilized age.

Such were the people whom our forefathers encountered when they landed on these shores. There was perhaps, on the whole, but little to attract and much to repel in this savage, uncultivated race of men, who possessed none of the refinement and refinement of civilized life and had no inclination and but little capacity for improvement in that direction. They adopted some of the

mechanical improvements of the white settlers, but had no genius for inventing any for themselves. They did not take kindly to what would elevate them, but unfortunately for themselves they learned with great readiness some of the worst among the bad customs attendant upon civilization and became thereby troublesome to the whites. Many of the Indians were lazy and became drunkards, hung about the settlements, entered the dwellings of the people and stole their goods, and committed many petty depredations. These became such a nuisance that measures were taken to prevent their annoyances. Treaties were made with the sachems on the subject, and laws were enacted to protect the settlers against such intrusions. Plymouth provided "forasmuch as complaint is made that many Indians pass into divers parts of this Jurisdiction, whereby some of the plantations begin to be oppressed by them, it is enacted by the Court that no strange or foreign Indians shall be permitted to come into any part of this Jurisdiction so as to make their residence there; and for that end that notice be given to the several Sagamores to prevent the same."¹ The laws empowered towns to adopt measures to prevent these evils, and it may be seen in the first chapter of this book that our town suffered some annoyances in this way and availed itself of the provisions of the law to prevent their continuance or recurrence.

On these fair domains of the red man, in place of scattered groups of temporary wigwams, now stand thriving cities and villages with thousands of permanent dwellings; instead of the smoke of blazing camp fires rising here and there from forest glade or lakeside clearing, now rises from everywhere the smoke of countless manufactories; where youthful warriors gathered round their aged chief to listen to his words of wisdom or hear him relate the treasured traditions of the tribe, now rise stately halls of learning, where the youths of the passing generations gather to glean stores of wisdom from the accumulated lore of all the ages; and where, in the leafy bowers of nature's build, beneath the moon's pale beams the swarthy lover wooed his dusky mate, now lie our busy streets, and the fair lover wooes some blushing maiden 'neath brilliant beams from flaming gas jets or within the searching glances of electric lights. Long since night has claimed the right to the inheritance of the poor Indian, and he has passed on from these charming hilltops and lovely vales to the longed for and, let us hope, happy and never to be disturbed hunting-grounds beyond the grave. For countless centuries these savage races had remained in this their land, roaming over these fields and through these forests, unchanged in their character and habits; but, coming at last in contact with a civilized and intellectual race, they were doomed to perish. They must obey the fixed law of nature and succumb to the superior race. However much we may lament or pity the fate of the red man or listen sadly to the departing footsteps of his people who preceded

¹ See Old Col. Laws, p. 129.

ing, we know it was not in the order of Providence that this great continent should be discovered even for all coming next of time by such wild, wandering tribes, who were incapable of improving the soil on which they lived, flitting to a remote spot beyond reach from its settlements and occupations, and to arrest that magnificent march of nature, competition, and civilization, which is spreading all over this vast territory, a territory capable of supporting hundreds of millions of men and containing its boundless natural treasures and the resources of the world.

In recording the early history of our country, we cannot but with profound admiration and reverence open our "Patriotic Pages" to those men of lofty principles and stern integrity, who were inspired of God with an unflinching determination to plant and perpetuate free institutions in a free land. They braved the perils of an unknown sea and the greater perils of an unknown continent, with its untried clime and life of danger among hostile savages, to gain for themselves and to bestow upon their children the independence we now enjoy.

Some of these worthy sires were satisfied one time, and the passing generations have seen here many worthy sons of these worthy sires. In Massachusetts' great marches of advancement our town kept even pace with every step, until it ranked among the foremost in progress and business enterprise. No town could have a more interesting early history or a longer and more honorable list of useful and distinguished men, among them some famous for their learning and intellectual attainments. So its history ran on to the very end, for now the page of records has no longer a single but a double leaf. At the word of her citizens two towns have been made, both alike springing from the parent stock fully armed and equipped, like Minerva from the brain of her father Jove. These begin each a new and somewhat separate career, but perchance, and let us so hope, only to be again united at no far distant day, then to make a record even more honorable and brilliant than that of the past. Though half-divided in name, the two towns cannot be wholly divided in their history so long as the chief business interest of both remains the same. May this much at least be always true, and if it be so decreed that they shall never be reunited under the ancient name, may the present names ever remain unchanged, and the two towns when classed together be known as "the two Attleboroughs." Then indeed the act of division will no longer be remembered; the granite pillars recently set up and the imaginary lines connecting them and separating the two portions will be forgotten; the "ancient landmarks" only will be recalled, and the territory embraced by them will seem as before an undivided whole; then indeed the two fair records of the future will be read together as one, and all those born within her old-time borders, wherever they may be, may still proudly and gratefully say: "My birthplace is 'the good old town of Attleborough.'"

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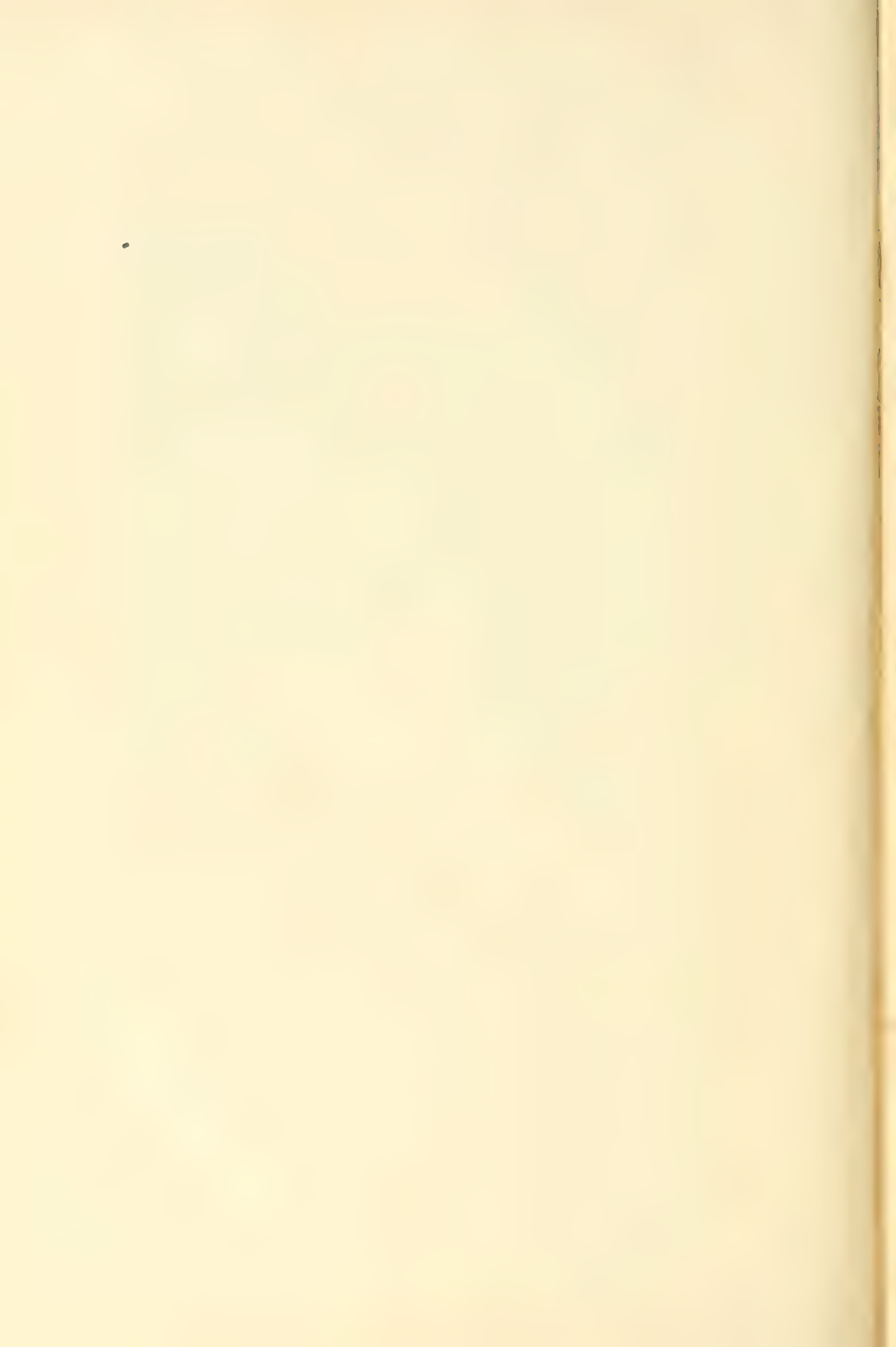
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